

141st Session
Mississippi Baptist
Convention

Nov. 16-18, 1976
First Baptist Church, Jackson

Suggested Order Of Business

General Theme: "A Triumphant Church For A
Troubled World."

Officers

President — James Richardson
First Vice President — John Traylor
Second Vice President — Robert Shirley
Recording Secretary —
Associate Recording Secretary — Hueston Adkins

Order Of Business Committee

W. Benton Preston, Chairman, Jackson
Jim Keith, Secretary, Laurel
Clark W. McMurray, Pascagoula
Sarah A. Rouse, Clinton
Glenn Sullivan, Clarksdale
John Lee Taylor, Grenada

Instrumentalists

Organist: Robert Lee
Pianist: Mrs. Frank Hart

TUESDAY MORNING

"A Triumphant Church... Following"

8:50 Instrumental Praise Accompanists
9:00 Convention Call to Order James Richardson
9:05 A Call to Follow.
Congregational Praise Tommy Howard
Scripture Gerald Welch
Invocation Robert Smith

(Continued on page 3)

What Does Triumphant Church Do? Come To State Convention To See

By Dr. Jim Keith, Pastor
First Baptist Church, Laurel

In less than three weeks Baptists from each section of the state and representing the many fine churches of Mississippi will gather in Jackson's First Baptist Church to convene the 141st meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Every Southern Baptist in the Magnolia State is invited and encouraged to attend.

Mississippi Baptists are a fortunate people. For one thing God has entrusted to us a redemptive message which must be shared. That message will be proclaimed repeatedly throughout this year's Convention program. A popular feature in former conventions has been the "Bible Treasure" periods in which God's Word is expounded by outstanding state preachers. This year's gathering will once again be stimulated by these inspiring "Treasures" from Scripture.

On Tuesday afternoon Rev. S. A. "Sonny" Adkins will be preaching on "A Triumphant Church... Leading."

Rev. Adkins is a native of Prentiss, a graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary, and he is presently the pastor of the Rocky Creek Baptist Church of Lucedale, which has the distinction of being the largest rural church in the state of Mississippi.

Rev. Mel Craft, a native of Petal and now pastor of Tylertown Baptist Church, will speak Tuesday evening on "A Triumphant Church... Transforming." He has been pastor of several Mississippi churches, served on many denominational boards and committees, and was recently listed in the first edition of "Who's Who in Religion."

Dr. Howard Spell, the long-time Academic Dean and Professor of Bible at Mississippi College, will preach to the convention on the theme "A Triumphant Church... Teaching." Dr. Spell received his undergraduate degrees from Mississippi College and his master's and doctor's degrees from Southern Seminary. A past president of the Board of Trustees at

Southern Seminary, Dr. Spell is listed in "Who's Who in America."

Wednesday afternoon's session will gather to hear Rev. David Pratt, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Winona, preach on "A Triumphant Church... Caring." Rev. Pratt was born in Pope, educated at Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary, and has pastored four Mississippi churches.

(Continued on page 2)

NABF Told Of Elements Which Hamper Growth

ARLINGTON, Va. (BP) — Non-denominational organizations, the charismatic movement, and the appeal of the Unification Church to youth were described here as divisive elements which may hamper the growth pattern of Baptists in North America.

Carl W. Tiller, an associate secret-

ary of the Baptist World Alliance

(BWA), made those observations during the annual meeting of the general committee of the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF).

The comments were made in the context of a report to 50 representatives of seven North American Baptist denominations that Baptists have shown continued growth in membership and stewardship.

"The increased pull that non-denominational organizations have upon our people and their purses," the growth of the charismatic movement, and the appeal of Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church to young people represent a potential problem, said Tiller.

Many Baptist people, Tiller reported, are responding to "the expensive advertising and promotional efforts" of faith missions, famine relief organizations and disaster relief bodies, "seemingly unaware that our own Baptist denominational bodies are doing an effective work toward accomplishing the same objectives."

Tiller said that the neo-Pentecostal or charismatic movement "often unites its adherents across denominational lines and often divides people in the local church."

The Unification Church, he said, appeals to youth "with its high powered promotion, 'surface' statements that closely resemble the sayings of Jesus, and its hidden bundle of false doctrines that are taught the unsuspecting."

Some of these same concerns were reflected by Archibald Goldie of the Baptist Federation of Canada, reporting on a group conference by mission administrators. He urged increased communication and promotion of Baptist mission activities, so that Baptists will support denominational, rather than non-Baptist, mission projects.

Ernest K. Bee Jr., moderator of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Washington, D. C., was elected chairman of the NABF for the coming year, succeeding Robert C. Campbell, general secretary of American Baptist Churches in the USA, who has served two one-year terms as chairman.

Mrs. Dolores Duck, executive director of Woman's Mission Board in the General Association of General Baptists, Poplar Bluff, Mo., was named vice chairman, succeeding Floyd W. Harris, a Southern Baptist layman. Tiller serves as secretary and Fred B. Rhodes of Washington as treasurer.

NABF, one of five regional fellowships operating under the BWA umbrella, has 11,000 members.

(Continued on page 2)

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (BP) — "Messengers" to the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT) voted here to deny the seating of four persons from two Dallas area charismatic churches.

This is believed to be the first time one of the 33 Baptist state conventions cooperating with the Southern Baptist

Convention (SBC) has voted to deny seats to messengers from charismatic or neo-Pentecostal churches.

The action was taken after the BGCT's credentials committee had recommended that the four be recognized as bonafide messengers to the convention's 91st session, a BGCT spokesman said.

Wendell E. King, pastor of North Temple Baptist Church, Dallas, challenged the seating of the four church members in the convention's opening session.

He said the four represented congregations in Dallas which he claimed have been disruptive to the fellowship and worship of other churches in the

area.

The churches to which King referred are the Beverly Hills Baptist Church in Dallas and the Shady Grove Church in Grand Prairie, a Dallas suburb.

The "messengers" who were denied seating at the convention were Olen Griffing, pastor of Shady Grove Church; Calvin Grantham, associate pastor of Beverly Hills Church; and Heriberto Benevides and Monty Smith, members of the Shady Grove Church.

According to Baptist polity, the two churches can continue to be known as Southern Baptist by virtue of association and cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention nationally, even though they are no longer officially part of the Dallas Association or Texas Convention.

To deny them SBC Recognition would take action of the national body of messengers in annual session, held each June.

"The charismatic practices of these churches have disrupted the fellowship of the Dallas Baptist Association and the fellowship of the North Temple Baptist Church," King said later.

"Their worship practices appeal to emotional responses of people and their reactions detract from involvement in our churches," he said.

King pointed out that he does not wish to deny the two churches their "constitutional right to worship as the Holy Spirit leads. But, I have difficulty with their being called Baptists, and when I say this I'm speaking more in terms of defining Baptists in a traditional sense."

(Continued on page 3)

Millington Center: 'A Home Away From Home'

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (BP) — Two years ago, a Navy enlisted man entered the Service Personnel Center near Millington Naval Air Station seeking counseling on how to find a wife.

About a year later, he was married to a girl he met at a social gathering at a Baptist church.

Such "services" are not the norm for the Baptist-sponsored servicemen's center, but for the layman directing the center—retired Navy Commander Willis (Chip) Reding—it was all in the line of duty.

The young man had been on a bus running from the base near Millington to nearby Memphis when he saw the

center's sign and pulled for the driver to stop. He told Reding he'd been pounding the streets all that day, lonely—afraid to tell a chaplain what he wanted because he thought he'd laugh.

Reding promised not to laugh and counseled him. The young man not only eventually found a wife but also accepted Christ as his Savior.

Not many servicemen can say they found a wife through the Baptist servicemen's center, but many of the 15,000 stationed at the Naval Air Station can say they have found free peanut butter-and-jelly sandwiches, lemonade and family counseling there.

Sponsored by the Shelby Baptist Association.

(Continued on page 2)



Retired Navy Commander Willis (Chip) Reding runs a "home away from home" for sailors and officers at the Baptist sponsored servicemen's center at Millington, Tenn., near the U. S. Naval Air Station. It is sponsored by the Home Mission Board and the Shelby Baptist association. (HMB Photo by Tim McKay).

FMB Budget: Evangelism And Missionary Support Stressed

RICHMOND (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board (FMB) has approved a \$55.3 million budget for 1977, a \$4.3 million increase over 1976.

Of the \$55,340,918, almost 90 percent will be used for the support and ongoing ministries of about 2,700 missionaries in 94 countries. About 10 percent will be for administrative and promotional purposes at home.

Sixty percent of the budget is for missionary support, which includes missionaries' salaries, housing, medical expenses, education of children, insurance, taxes, furlough travel and freight, language study, and other related expenses.

The type of mission work receiving the largest allotment (including both operating and capital expenses) is evangelism and church development, for which \$6,251,045 (11.3 percent) was set aside. Schools, medical work, and publication work follow with 6.1, 3.1

and 2.4 percent respectively.

Preparation of the budget begins on each mission field as missionaries evaluate needs for their various ministries and make recommendations to their mission (organization of missionaries in a given political entity). From decisions made during annual mission meetings, each mission submits a proposed operating budget and a list of capital needs to the Foreign Mission Board.

"Resources are not adequate to meet all needs, so the missions only submit the most pressing needs," said Baker J. Cauley, executive director of the board.

He explained that board members and staff members study the requests, look at anticipated income for the next year, and work out details of the budget.

Funds for the budget come from two sources.

(Continued on page 2)



NASHVILLE — Mrs. Mary Clayton of Jackson was one of 15 pastors' wives from 13 states who participated in a Pastors' Wives Consultation held recently at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Mrs. Clayton is the wife of Maurice Clayton, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Jackson. The special conference was directed by Jerry Hillers (left), pastoral ministries consultant in the board's church administration department. Ernest Mosley (right) is supervisor of the department's pastoral section.

What Does A Triumphant Church Do? Come See

(Continued from page 1)

A Triumphant Church. Sharing will be the Wednesday evening message of Rev. James Fancher. Born in Weir and raised in Louisville, he was educated at Mississippi College and the New Orleans and Golden Gate seminaries. Actively involved in denominational life, Rev. Fancher after 23 years in the pastorate has served as a full-time evangelist since 1971.

The final "Bible Treasure" will be given on Thursday morning by Rev. James Hurt. A native of Louisville, Rev. Hurt has attended Mississippi College, Southern Seminary, Columbia and Princeton Theological Seminary. Presently a member of several strategic state-wide committees, he was given a "Service to Humanity Award" by Mississippi College in 1976. "A Triumphant Church, Claiming" will be the message of this pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Cleveland.

Another reason why Mississippi Baptists are a fortunate people has to do with the ministering institutions, commissions and boards entrusted to our care and use. Being responsible for this sponsorship and support of Educational institutions, hospitals, an orphanage, a periodical, as well as many other means and resources for Christian service, it is important that the churches of Mississippi take this convention opportunity to consider what we are now doing in these strategic areas. Four program periods are scheduled in this year's convention for evaluating these efforts to minister.

Those leading in these Panel Presentation represent four distinct areas of Baptist service. Rev. Leon Young is the Director of Missions for the Lauderdale Baptist Association. A native of Estemill and educated at Mississippi State University and New Orleans Seminary, he has served in his present capacity since 1965.

Rev. Gary Smith is the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Carriere. Born in Bailey, he received degrees from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. A third panel convener, Rev. Billy Hardy, is the Minister of Education of the First Baptist Church of Columbus. A graduate of Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary, he has previously served in the Woodland Hills Baptist Church of

Jackson and the First Baptist Church of Kosciusko.

Rev. Cornell Daughtry is director of the BSU At Mississippi Delta Junior College. He was raised in Olive Branch and educated at Mississippi College and two Baptist seminaries. Southeastern and New Orleans. After several Mississippi pastorates he came to his present position in 1972.

Certainly Mississippi Baptists are fortunate people for we have been entrusted with a redemptive message and ministry. Those who attend this year's convention will share in the fortunes that both provide us. That is reason enough for all Baptists to meet together on November 16-18.

Millington Center: A Home Away From Home

(Continued from page 1)

Steve Ketrick, for instance, a native of Tulsa, Okla., who works in the base legal office, said the center "helps keep me out of trouble."

Everyone who enters the center, located only about 200 yards off base, is clicked into a calculator and given an introduction and an invitation to tour the facilities. The Christian witness is low key.

"Our idea was that we would have a low-key spiritual aspect here," noted Reding, "that we wouldn't hustle them off to the back room for a profession of faith."

"We do try, however, to be alert to the leadership of the Holy Spirit for counseling," he continued.

The center gets 90 percent enlisted men, "and the ones who come are usually interested in spiritual things," he said. "These past few years the lower pay grades have been getting more pay, so more are getting married. This invited problems in finance and in maturity. Being a long way from home also helps the problems add up."

Reding tries to make his counseling spiritual, explaining that the way to make it as a family is to have a relationship to the Lord. He has recorded 216 professions of faith since the center opened.

Rutledge Nears Retirement, Looks Back, Ahead

(Continued from page 1)

sionaries to American Samoa.

In reference to the work in the Pacific, Rutledge added: "Hopefully, next summer a survey will be made under the joint sponsorship of the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board of American trust territories in the Pacific to determine if some effort by us — as a home mission effort — ought to be put forth in the U. S. territories in the Pacific."

He said "the only Southern Baptist work in the vast area is on Guam, where our Foreign Mission Board assists four congregations, working largely with military people."

The Home Mission Board leader said he wanted to communicate to directors "my optimism about what lies ahead. I have been amazed with the

increasing financial support. Our budget in 1965 (when Rutledge became executive director-treasurer) was \$6.25 million. A dozen years later it is four times that.

"I think our people, by their giving, have said in a clearer way than I have heard it said in my lifetime: 'We believe in missions — missions at home, missions around the world. We want in these days to see the gospel of our Lord furthered.'"

He added: "I simply thank God and thank the Lord's people, who are Southern Baptists for this support."

Rutledge also commented on Tanner's election. Referring to the former Oklahoma Baptist University president as "brilliant," Rutledge said it is a "strategic time for a change of leadership."

"One of the hopes I have had all along is that when Dec. 31 comes, there will not be a miss of the beating of the motor, that the 'RPMs' will continue, and that we will go right on in the work that the Lord has entrusted to this board," he declared.

He added that he anticipates "there will be changes, and there ought to be changes. When you change leadership, you have a new look, a new perspective. There will be changes — not in commitment and not in objective — but in the way we carry on our work."

"I know God is going to lead you, and I thank the Lord and you for the opportunity of service that has been mine. It is a joy to come to the end of this service with a bright future ahead and with God's favor on us in so many signal ways."

"The Bold Mission Thrust gives us the greatest opportunity, the greatest challenge, we have ever known."

Directors honored Rutledge and his wife, Vesta, with a banquet on the eve of the meeting. He was presented gifts

from the board and from each state.

Tanner, making his first appearance at the board since his election, told directors he is "grateful for your confidence and support. I would like to request at the very outset that you put me on your prayer calendar. I don't know of anything that would be more supportive of me than this."

He told directors he is "very grateful for my colleagues . . . for Arthur Rutledge. I am thankful for his openness and his genuineness to me. I have decided not only to pick his brain and expertise on operation and strategy, but I think I also will catch his heartbeat for world missions."

As he looked ahead, Tanner said he is "grateful . . . for the privilege of being literally catapulted into the mainstream of what I consider to be the most exciting kingdom enterprise that I know about among Southern Baptists. I really believe we are standing on the threshold of two of the most exciting and demanding decades that we have faced since our beginning 200 years ago."

"We have the largest missionary component, the largest financial resources for our work, and the most diverse — yet comprehensive and creative — program of mission strategy that we have had in 131 years (since the founding of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Home Mission Board in 1845)."

He continued: "Whatever changes the inventiveness of the last quarter of the Twentieth Century may bring, one thing is certain: the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has the facilities and the capabilities to make it possible for every person in our land to confront the claims of Christ. This is our mandate, and I do not personally believe we can either deny, delay or defer."

Ministers' Wives

Need Understanding

(Continued from page 1)

us to have a rich family life by expecting us to have adequate time together, they might be just as ordinary or as special as your own children."

The statement also adds a comment about financial needs and a need for friendships.

"Please know that you do not necessarily improve our characters by keeping us poor," the conference participants stated. "Our husbands may have done as much formal study as other professional men in the community but may not be compensated as well. Also, they must necessarily be in the public eye, which requires a reasonable income. Mostly we would be happy with the median income of our church members."

"If you see that certain people are our special friends, please realize that they may have reached out to us in helpfulness or because of their own needfulness."

The statement concludes by stressing that the friendship of church members is vitally important to the pastor's wife.

What Hampers Church Growth

(Continued from page 1)

brella, is a voluntary organization of nine North American bodies with more than 19 million members.

The two day meeting in Arlington, a Washington suburb, featured a program of understanding and sharing, continuing a pattern of past years for small sharing sessions by leaders in special interest areas. Discussions dealt with church and society, missions administration, services to the churches, disaster preparedness, and the work of executive secretaries.

Dialogue on ecclesiastical and theological similarities and differences included spokesmen for American Baptist Canadian Baptists, Seventh Day Baptists and Southern Baptists, relating the heritage and doctrinal views of their respective groups. Other member groups of the fellowship will be heard at next year's session.

The dialogue was an outgrowth of a proposal in 1975 that the fellowship respond to an invitation from the Lutheran Council in the USA for theological discussions. "Why don't we discuss our own similarities and differences first?" someone asked.

In reports of the various sharing sessions, the meeting of executive secretaries expressed hope of "finding ways within the church" to accommodate people with varying points of view on the charismatic movement.

And a group on disaster preparedness told of establishment of a "manpower bank" under Southern Baptist direction to process men and skills for emergency service at times of natural disaster. The manpower bank will be opened for participation by other Baptist bodies.

High School Weekend At BMC To Be Nov. 6-7

Plans for a record turnout of prospective Blue Mountain College students who will be on campus during the 24th annual high school week-end program November 6-7 are being finalized, according to Dr. Doug Bain, sponsor of the BMC Freshman class which annually hosts the big campus event.

"It's really hard to predict exactly how many high school students we'll have on campus over the week-end but the number has run as high as 350-400 and we think it is realistic to expect that many this year," Dr. Bain noted.

School officials indicate that visiting students will be kept busy with a vigorous schedule following registration Saturday morning. Campus tours, general orientation, faculty visitation, classroom inspection and a number of other activities will be sandwiched around an afternoon presentation of "Funny Girl".

Under the direction of Marty Hansen, head of the BMC Speech and Drama department, the production of "Funny Girl" promises to be a highlight of the week-end.

A late afternoon tea honoring the week-end guests will precede the evening meal in the campus dining hall. Saturday night students will be entertained by a series of campus life skits performed by members of the BMC freshman class.

"The theme of the entire week-end is 'fun, information and inspiration' and

that idea will be carried forth throughout all facets of program," said Lu Anne Travis of Blue Mountain, president of the 1976-77 freshman class.

Committee chairmen working on the big 2-day event at the school include Connie Clements of Corinth, invitations; Susie Spruill of Gulfport, housing; Carolyn McChesney of Poplar Grove, Arkansas, decorations; Angie Baker of Selmer, Tennessee, social; Terri Hill of Columbus, registration; Vicki Williams of Amory, program and Beth Walker of Mendenhall, tours.

The week-end of activities concludes Sunday with special morning services, a luncheon and general assembly program.

More information about the program, which is expected to attract students from throughout the Mid-South, may be obtained by contacting the Dean of Students, Blue Mountain College.

Study Book Author Ranks "Romans" High



FORT WORTH — "From a Christian perspective, 'Romans' is the most important letter ever written."

A rather bold statement, perhaps, but J. W. MacGorman feels very strongly about the Letter to the Romans for several reasons.

MacGorman, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Seminary here, is the author of "Romans: Everyman's Gospel," the adult textbook for 1977 January Bible Study.

"The letter has a message for people everywhere," he said. "It is the most complete statement of human need and of the power of God's grace to meet that need that we have in the New Testament." MacGorman observed that Romans merits the title that a former writer gave to it, namely, "The Gospel According to Paul."

"It is a powerful document," he went on to say, "and will be strong medicine for those who have exaggerated ideas of man's goodness." According to MacGorman, Romans "lays bare the sin of the human heart," but also magnifies, "the wonder of God's redeeming grace."

The professor does not believe that Paul painted an exaggerated picture of decadence in the Greco-Roman world in Romans 1:18-32. "There are places in the world today where the

depravity described in Romans characterizes the culture." Bringing the issue closer to home, he said, "No one can understand contemporary American culture adequately without the insights of Romans 1. What our culture calls 'alternate lifestyles,' Paul called reprobation or degeneracy."

MacGorman has a personal interest in Romans, too. One of its great passages, Romans 8:28-29, is "the passage above all others in the Bible, through which God has spoken to the deepest needs of my life." He emphasized that the "good" promised in verse 28 is defined in verse 29 as an increasing conformity to the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Because of the importance of Romans, MacGorman foresees great things happening in the lives of Christians if they will take time "to break the busy stride of their lives long enough to give God an opportunity to speak to them through his word."

MacGorman has a personal testimony concerning the power of Bible study. "I have great respect for what the Spirit of God can do for a searching heart with an open Bible. I was not converted in a revival meeting, a worship service, or during a personal visit, but rather alone in a hospital bed with an open Bible," he recalls.

Taxation

House Kills College Tax Credit Bill

WASHINGTON (BP) — The House of Representatives killed a \$3.2 billion tax credit measure to aid parents with dependents in college by refusing to act on an amendment the Senate tacked on to a bill for the relief of Smith College in Northampton, Mass.

The original bill from the House would have admitted duty free 33 carillon bells produced by the Packard Bell Foundry in France for Smith College. The bells were subject to a 7 percent duty which amounts to approximately \$2,250. There was no objection in either house of Congress to this relief for Smith College.

When the bill reached the Senate, an amendment was proposed by Sen. Russell B. Long (D., La.) to allow an income tax credit to individuals for certain educational expenses paid for dependents. The tax credit would have been allowed up to \$100 in 1977, \$150 in 1978, \$200 in 1979, and \$250 in 1980.

Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D., Me.) opposed the bill which would have cost the government \$3.2 billion in loss of revenue over a five-year period. Muskie said the bill would not result in real help to taxpayers, since colleges would likely raise their tuition costs in the

amount of tax credit to the taxpayers. This tax credit plan was earlier included in the larger tax reform bill, but it was knocked out in the Senate-House Conference Committee. At that time, it was promised that both houses would have opportunity to vote on it as a separate item.

In the closing days of the 94th Congress, Rep. Al Ullman (D., Ore.), chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, brought the Senate amendment before the House. However, the House refused to appoint a conference committee and the measure (along with the relief for Smith College) died with the adjournment of Congress.

Parents of students in Southern Baptist senior and junior colleges would have received approximately \$75,048,300 in tax credit if the bill had passed Congress and had been signed into law by President Ford. This figure is based on the regular enrollment reported for the 1975-76 school year.

If colleges decided to increase tuition by the amount of tax credit allowed to parents, the beneficiaries would then have been the schools rather than those paying the tuition.

Church Camps' Exemptions Threatened

AUSTIN, Tex. (BP) — A Texas Supreme Court ruling here denying tax exemptions to an Episcopal Church camp was greeted with surprise and concern by Texas Baptists.

But the consensus was it is too early to tell how the ruling might affect Texas campgrounds, the Baptist Standard reported.

The court ruled that the constitutional tax exemption for an "actual place of religious worship" does not include the entire 155 acres of an Episcopal Church camp in Hood County.

The ruling upheld a lower court ruling that the Episcopal Diocese of North Texas can get property tax exemption only for the camp's open-air chapel and one acre surrounding it and for the minister's residence with one acre surrounding it.

The remaining 153 acres of Camp Crucis in Hood County are taxable, the high court ruled.

A crucial factor, according to news reports, was the fact that the church failed to establish proof that the entire tract was an actual place of religious worship, even though it is used for a summer program of religious services, religious education, crafts, recreation, retreats, conferences and church picnics.

"There is a difference between a place which is used for religious purposes and a place of actual worship," the court ruled, citing a 1968 opinion.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas owns no campgrounds, but 23

scattered across the state are owned and operated by Baptist associations. Texas Baptist State Missions Commission Director Charles P. McLaughlin said they have an estimated value of \$11 million.

State Convention Executive Director James H. Landes said he was surprised and saddened at the news of the decision but said that neither he nor the convention attorney had had opportunity to examine the ruling and didn't know how the Baptist encampments might be affected.

Robert W. McGinnis, director of Dallas Baptist Association, which owns 521-acre Mount Lebanon encampment in southwest Dallas County, said he interpreted the decision as further evidence of "gradual encroachment on religious freedom."

McGinnis said all of the encampment is used for religious programming and exclusively religious activities, but said the association already had received tax notices from Dallas County.

Robert H. Power, Dallas attorney who represents the association, said he could understand the ruling in the Episcopal case, but added, "It is my opinion that if it can be shown affirmatively that all of the land regarding which a tax exemption is claimed is in fact used — and I mean actively used — for religious purposes, then a trial court could under existing law find that such land is entitled to an exempt status."

Training Day Opens At Jackson, First

Training Day, which will offer Mississippi Baptist leadership conferences beginning Nov. 11, will convene in the main auditorium of Jackson's First Baptist Church at 9:30 a.m.

The graded conferences in five church program areas, staffed by convention board personnel, are expected to draw 1,000 persons.

Parking for the event, the first in a series of quarterly sessions, will be available on the streets nearby the church, and in the north lot of the church which is at 4320 N. President. Buses may park at the church lot at the corner of High and N. State Streets.

Course books will not be on sale that day, said Judd Allen of the MBCS staff, who is serving on the church study committee course promotion committee.

"Our suggested plan for obtaining books is for churches to either purchase books for workers or act as agents in obtaining them from the bookstore," said Allen.

Coffee will be served at the rear of the auditorium at nine a.m.

FMB Evangelism And Missions Stressed

(Continued from page 1)

main sources. More than \$23 million is provided through the Cooperative Program, the unified budget of the Southern Baptist Convention. The other source is the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions. The 1976 goal for the offering is \$29 million. Twenty-six million dollars of that is anticipated in the 1977 budget, based on the actual 1975 receipts of about \$29 million. The entire Lottie Moon offering will apply to overseas needs and missionary support.

Prayer Lift For Pastors

WALTHALL

Oct. 31

John Rushing, Dinan George Shaddix, Knoxville Darnell Archie, Magees Creek Randy McHam, Mesa Michael Knippers, New Zion Nov. 1

Billy Murphy, Salem

Mel Craft, Tylertown

Harold Wilson, Union

WARREN

Jasper Collins, Bovina

Harold Jordan, Bowmar Ave.

Nov. 2

Charles Funderburk, Calvary

Oster Daniels, Goodrum

Donald Slack, Grace

James Messer, Highland

A. G. Gray, Immanuel

Nov. 3

Robert Warren, Long Lake

Glen Wright, Northside

R. E. Paine, Ridgeway

John McCall, Vicksburg, First

Alton Hodnett, Wayside

Nov. 4

Paul Brooks, Woodlawn

WASHINGTON

R. B. McNeer, Alexander Memorial

Cecil Mulloy, Arcola

James Dykes, Bogue

Charles Laws, Darlove

Nov. 5

Howard Taylor, Calvary

Hugh Martin, Emmanuel

Barry Landrum, Greenville, First

Benny Cox, Glendale

Frank Bishop, Greenfield

Nov. 6

Max Parker, Hollandale

Don Neil, Lake Washington

Charles Everitt, Lakeview

James Richardson, Leland, First

John Adams, Parkview, Leland

Mississippi Baptist Convention

(Continued from page 1)

9:15	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
9:25	Organization of Convention	
	Recognition and Seating of Messengers	Horace Kerr
	Report of Committee on Order of Business	W. Benton Preston
	Welcome to Jackson	Franklin D. Pollard
9:40	Choral Praise	Sanctuary Choir
		First Baptist Church, Leland
9:55	President's Address	James Richardson
10:25	Congregational Praise	Tommy Howard
10:30	Introduction of New Workers	Dr. Earl Kelly
	Pastors	
	Staff Members	
	Directors of Student Work	
	Directors of Missions	
	Southern Baptist Chaplains	
11:00	Following in Worship	
	Choral Praise	The Praise Singers
		First Baptist Church, New Albany
	Scripture and Prayer	Frank Gunn
	Choral Praise	The Praise Singers
		First Baptist Church, New Albany
	Convention Sermon	William F. Evans
11:45	Benediction	J. W. Tynes
	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

"A Triumphant Church... Leading"

1:20	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists
1:30	A Call to Lead	
	Congregational Praise	Gary Gregg
	Scripture	Paul Harwood
	Invocation	Ernest Sadler
1:40	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
1:50	Bible Treasure	S. A. Adkins
2:05	Business Period	
	Election of Officers	
	Report of Committee on Committees	Joe McKeever
	Resolutions Presented and Referred	
	Report of Committee on Constitution and By-Laws	John McCall
3:00	Congregational Praise	Gary Gregg
3:05	Panel Presentation	Leon Young, Convener
	Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists	Dick Brogan
	Cooperative Missions Department	Foy Rogers
	Evangelism Department	Roy Collum
	The Baptist Record	Donald McGregor
3:25	Presentation of 1977 Budget	Glen Perry
3:35	Election of Officers	
	Miscellaneous Business	
3:50	Brotherhood Report	Elmer Howell
4:00	Vocal Praise	Men's Quartet
		First Baptist Church, Lumberton
4:05	Message	Dr. Glendon McCullough
4:30	Benediction	Louis Barmer
	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists

TUESDAY EVENING

"A Triumphant Church... Transforming"

6:50	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists
7:00	A Call to Transform	
	Congregational Praise	Jimmy Bilbo
	Scripture	Paul Wilson
	Invocation	From Mary
7:10	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
7:20	Bible Treasure	Mel Craft
7:35	State Mission Emphasis	Dr. Earl Kelly, Presiding
	Introduction of State Mission Staff	
	Testimonies: A Transformed Church Transforming	
	Through a Church Building Fund Campaign	Tommy Baddley
	Through Cooperative Program Commitment	Ray Lloyd
	Through Stewardship Promotion	Rayford Duck
	Through Sunday School ACTION	James Hurt
	Through Evangelism	Roy McHenry
	Recognition of Top Churches in Giving	
	Presentation of Books of Letters	
	To Carey Cox	Harold Kitchings
	To Joe Odle	Earl Kelly
	Presentation of Sunday School Award	Gomer Lesch
	Choral Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen & Mississippi Singing Women
	Message	Joe T. Odle
	Choral Praise	Mississippi Singing Churchmen & Mississippi Singing Women
9:00	Benediction	Gordon Shambarger
	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists

WEDNESDAY MORNING

"A Triumphant Church... Teaching"

8:50	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists
9:00	A Call to Teach	
	Congregational Praise	Santford Casey
	Scripture	Charles Gentry
	Invocation	George Dale

9:10	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
9:20	Reading of Minutes	
9:30	Report of Committees	
	Nominations	W. Lavon Moore
	Time, Place, Preacher	
9:45	Bible Treasure	Dr. Howard Spell
10:00	Panel Presentation	Gary Smith, Convener
	Mississippi Baptist Seminary	T. B. Brown
	Board of Ministerial Education	Cliff Estes
	Education Commission	Joe Tuten
	Blue Mountain College	E. Harold Fisher
	Clarke College	W. L. Compere
	Mississippi College	Lewis Nobles
	William Carey College	Ralph Noonkester
10:45	Congregational Praise	Santford Casey
10:50	Convention Board Report	Gene Triggs
	Adoption of Budget	
11:15	Choral Praise	The Talking Hands
		Mississippi Baptist Deaf Choir
		Dr. Ralph Smith
11:20	Message	Raymond Dallas
11:45	Benediction	Accompanists
	Instrumental Praise	

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

"A Triumphant Church... Caring"

1:50	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists
2:00	A Call to Care	
	Congregational Praise	Bart Shanklin
	Scripture	Jack Nazary
	Invocation	Don Henderson
2:10	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
2:20	Bible Treasure	David Pratt
2:35	Miscellaneous Business	
2:45	Panel Presentation	W. E. Hardy, Jr., Convener
	Christian Action Commission	J. Clark Hensley
	Church-Minister Relations	Clifton Perkins
	Church Music	Dan Hall
	Church Training	Kermit King
	Stewardship	John Alexander
	Sunday School	Bryant Cummings
3:20	Congregational Praise	Bart Shanklin
3:25	Choral Praise	The Temple Belles
		Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg
3:30	Message	Dr. John Claypool
4:00	Benediction	Guy Reedy
	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists

WEDNESDAY EVENING

"A Triumphant Church... Sharing"

6:50	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists
7:00	A Call to Share	
	Congregational Praise	D. Neil Harris
	Scripture	Wilbur Webb
	Invocation	Dale Holloway
7:10	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
7:20	Bible Treasure	James Fancher
7:35	Woman's Missionary Report	Marjean Patterson
7:45	Recognition of Missionaries	
	Foreign	Joe McKeever
	Home	Lewis Myers, Sr.
	Chaplains	Willis Brown
7:50	Message	Carolyn Weatherford
8:20	Congregational Praise	D. Neil Harris
8:25	Choral Praise	The Church Choir
		Alta Woods Baptist Church, Jackson
8:30	Message	Rev. Lewis Myers, Jr.
9:00	Benediction	John Brock
	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists

THURSDAY MORNING

"A Triumphant Church... Claiming"

8:50	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists
9:00	A Call to Claim	
	Congregational Praise	George McFadin
	Scripture	Billy Roby
	Invocation	Ralph Graves
9:10	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
9:20	Reading of the Minutes	
9:30	Memorial Service	Clifton Perkins
9:35	Report of Committee on Resolutions	
9:50	Bible Treasure	James Hurt
10:05	Congregational Praise	George McFadin
10:10	Panel Presentation	Cornell Dougherty, Convener
	Annuity Board	W. R. Roberts
	Baptist Children's Village	Paul Nunery
	Baptist Foundation	Carey Cox
	Baptist Memorial Hospital	Robert Scates
	Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission	James Porch
	Mississippi Baptist Medical Center	Paul Pryor
	Student Work Department	Ralph Winders
10:55	Claiming in Worship	
	Congregational Praise	George McFadin
	Responsive Reading	Judy Lewis
		L. E. Green
	Vocal Praise	Jamall Badry
	Message	Dr. Edwin Young
11:45	Benediction	Marvin Bibb
	Instrumental Praise	Accompanists



"Jesus began his church with a small group," Bill Bangham said during the group dynamics session at this weekend's Lay Renewal Conference at the Baptist Building. (Photo and story by Anita McGraw)

Lay Renewal Is Call Into Discipleship

Lay renewal leaders and persons interested in lay renewal gathered, Oct. 15-16, for a weekend training conference at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

The conference, sponsored by the state Brotherhood Department, brought together some of the best qualified renewal teachers in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Reid Hardin, director of renewal evangelism for the Home Mission Board, presented an explanation and definition of the lay renewal journey into ministries and evangelism. Commonly called the "second lay renewal weekend," the journey into ministries and evangelism is a "call to discipleship and discovery of skills," said Hardin. It is a call "to give your entire life—home and business—to Christ. Too many people in our churches are cheering on Sunday, but cheating on Monday." Hardin concluded by saying lay renewal is not a time for God to drop spiritual gifts in the hands of church members, but rather a time for "good people to become God's people."

Ras B. Robinson Jr., president of Pathway Ministries, Inc., Ft. Worth, Tex., led those attending the conference in two sessions of in-depth study

in discipleship. "Renewal begins with a personal relationship with the man named Jesus," the Laurel, Miss. native said. People can often be misled in the goals they set, so "you have to be sure your ladder is leaning on the right house."

A group dynamics session, illustrating how the small group works, was conducted by Bill Bangham, author of the lay renewal book JOURNEY INTO SMALL GROUPS. "Small groups are not new," said Bangham, the Director of the Biological Laboratories at George Washington University. "God has used small groups throughout history. Jesus began his church with a small group."

Conferences for equipping leaders in all phases of Lay Renewal Ministries were conducted, as well as a conference especially designed to answer questions for those unfamiliar with the lay renewal concept.

"We hope these conferences will meet the increasing need for qualified lay renewal personnel in Mississippi," said Paul Harrell of the State Brotherhood Department. "Any church interested in experiencing Lay Renewal should contact the Brotherhood department."

Library Organization Workshop To Be At Alta Woods, Jackson

"Reading Rings the Bell" will be the theme of the fifth annual Mississippi Baptist Library Organization Workshop, emphasizing the idea that reading does ring the bell—for liberty, for enlightenment, for enjoyment.

The workshop will be held October 29 and 30 at Alta Woods Church, Jackson. Registration will be from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Friday, with the first general session opening at 1. A banquet is planned for Friday night at 6, with conferences afterward. The workshop will adjourn Saturday at 12 noon.

To be discussed are such topics as meeting needs with books, the children's summer reading program, Broadman services, services for the handicapped, beginning a library, using audio visuals in religious education, and classification and cataloging.

Program personnel will include Bill Ballou, minister of education, Alta Woods, Jackson; Ted Campbell, head librarian, Services for Handicapped, MLC, Jackson; Tom Gambrell, manager, Baptist Book Store, Jackson; Mrs. Geraldine Harrison, chief of cataloging, MLC, Jackson; Glynn Hill, Church Library Department, BSSB, Nashville; Charles Myers, pastor, Alta Woods; Mrs. Madel Morgan, special projects coordinator, MLC, Jackson; Mrs. Jackie Payne, circula-

tion supervisor, MLC, Jackson; James Rose, Church Library Department, BSSB, Nashville; Larry Salter, consultant, Sunday School Department, MLCB, Jackson; Wayne Todd, secretary, Church Library Department, BSSB, Nashville.

Mrs. Russell Bush, Jr. of Columbia is president of the 1976 Library Officers.

\$1.5 Million Church Budget May Be State's Largest Ever

A record budget for First Baptist Church, Jackson, for 1977 is also very likely the largest church budget ever adopted in Mississippi, observers have pointed out.

The total budget goal for the church for next year is \$1,575,000. The projected Cooperative Program total for the year is \$160,000. The church has also voted to continue with its commitment for restoration of Gulfshore Assembly for a fourth year. The original pledge was for three years. The budget figure for Gulfshore for next year is \$18,738.

Results Follow Spanish Evangelistic Emphasis

Three months of evangelistic emphasis at the Spanish mission in Shelby culminated with revival services led by Rev. Bob Sena, consultant on ethnic evangelism for the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.

The Spanish mission participated, along with other language groups, in a Multi-Ethnic Simultaneous Lay Evangelism School which provided training for witnessing.

This school was followed by a week of visiting and preaching among the Spanish-speaking people by Rev. & Mrs. David Glaze, students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. During the month of September, Rev. Frank Ruiz of Michigan worked with the missions doing survey work, visiting and preaching.

As a part of Simultaneous Crusades among language groups in Mississippi, the revival, led by Sena with Frank Ruiz leading the music, resulted in eight professions of faith and four rededications. Those who came on professions of faith have been baptized in the sponsoring church, Duncan Baptist Church, Duncan, MS. Billy Beckett, pastor.

The Lay Evangelism School and Crusade was a joint project of the

Evangelism Department and Cooperative Missions Department and coordinated by Rodney Webb, Roy Collum and Bob Sena.



Bob Sena counsels a person who made a decision for Christ during the revival.

Texans Deny Seating

(Continued from page 1)

tional sense rather than in a definitive sense."

After the credentials committee passed along its ruling that King's challenge should be overruled, the decision was brought to a vote by messengers, and the committee ruling was overturned by a wide majority, according to reports.

Presiding was James G. Harris, BGCT president and pastor of the University Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

THE BGCT messengers underscored a decision by the Dallas Baptist Association to disassociate both Shady Grove and Beverly Hills Churches in Oct. 1975, for what was termed "charismatic practices."

The BGCT last year refused to act for or against charismatics in convention session, even though two proposals referring to or alluding to neo-Pentecostals and charismatics were presented in resolutions.

After the credentials committee's recommendation was voted down, two representatives of Shady Grove and Beverly Hills churches responded in interviews.

Griffing said, "We have purposefully caused no breach of fellowship. I and the people of Shady Grove do feel that Texas Baptists, as a whole, are in danger of drifting from biblical principles and precepts they have historically held as dear."

Howard Conatser, pastor of Beverly Hills Church, said in a telephone interview from Dallas, "I'm surprised that

the Texas Convention would take this action against the charismatic churches. Because of this I feel that the autonomy of the local church has been taken away."

"No longer can a Baptist church say it is free," Conatser said.

In presenting the credentials committee report, Presnell Wood, committee chairman and pastor of Park Place Baptist Church, Houston, said he believed the committee maintained the spirit of the BGCT constitution by recommending that the four be seated.

In other action, Texas Baptists launched a statewide evangelistic campaign and approved a record \$24.6 million budget.

The 2,700 registered "messengers" approved resolutions expressing concern over gambling, parental rights, and abortion, commended the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for its efforts in coordinating denominational response to world disasters and hunger, and re-elected James G. Harris, pastor of University Baptist Church, Fort Worth, as president.

Texas Baptists launched "Good News Texas," a 1977 statewide evangelistic campaign, and named evangelist Billy Graham as the effort's "national chairman." Graham, in a taped message, lauded the \$1.5 million campaign as "one of the most important and ambitious evangelical undertakings in the country's history."

Baylor University head coach Grant

Teaff and Jeanette Cliff George, who portrayed Corrie Ten Boom in "The Hiding Place" movie will aid Graham as state co-chairpersons for the campaign.

Television, radio, newspaper, and billboard advertising will be coordinated to pave the way for follow-up evangelistic efforts through over 4,000 Texas Baptist churches and missions, a spokesman noted.

In a press conference after his reelection, Harris was questioned by reporters about the action on charismatics. "The convention only acted for this year," he replied. "It did not take permanent action. Next year is a whole new ball game."

Harris said he personally would not vote to deny seating on this basis because charismatic gifts are "in the Bible and I am a biblical person."

But he added, "I am not a charismatic."

SBC President James L. Sullivan, a convention speaker, also participated in the press conference with Harris. The question of seating charismatic Baptist churches, Sullivan said, could arise at the SBC annual meeting, which would be more "reluctant to speak on it because the Southern Baptist Convention is a more diverse organization (than the state convention)."

The question has been presented previously to the SBC (which meets each June but it has "declined to take action," Sullivan said.

Brotherhood Banquet Features John Bewley

The Annual State Brotherhood Banquet will be held Nov. 15 at Broadmoor Baptist Church, 787 E. Northside Dr., Jackson.

The banquet, which begins at 5:30 p.m., is designed to provide "fellowship, fun, food, and inspiration," according to Elmer Howell, director of the state Brotherhood Department.

John Bewley, activities director at Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, will be the featured guest entertainer. He is a popular magician and ventriloquist who uses his tricks and his dummy "Willie" to witness for Christ.

Tickets for the annual banquet may be obtained from the Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, 39205. When ordering, please send \$2.00 per person. "Tickets will not be sold at the door," Howell said.

The leadership conferences, held each year prior to the banquet, will begin at 2:30 p.m. and will also be held at Broadmoor Church. This year's conferences, led by Frank Black and Jay Chance, will feature resource materials—what to use and where to get them.

Frank Black of the Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, will conduct the conference designed for Baptist Men's leadership, and Jay Chance, currently involved in graduate studies at Mississippi State University, will lead the conference for Royal Ambassador leaders and counselors.

"We urge all church and associational Brotherhood leaders (Baptist Men and Royal Ambassadors) to attend," said Howell.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

HEW Calls The Tune

A Southern Baptist college in Charleston, S. C., has come up with a peculiar problem. The school has been ordered by the federal government not to teach the Bible from a sectarian viewpoint in its classrooms.

The reason for this is that every building on the campus was built with tax money.

These were not grants. They were loans that will be repaid, but they were attractive enough loans, evidently, that the school almost mortgaged its soul as well as its buildings.

The college chose to ignore the federal restriction for awhile and taught the Bible from a Baptist viewpoint anyway. But the administration was challenged, and not by the government but by an individual. The challenge touched off a government investigation. Now the Bible can be taught only as literature or history. This has upset many South Carolina Baptists.

If there were just one building on the campus that had not been financed with federal tax revenue, the Bible could be taught there. There is none.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare feels that it cannot allow money taken from people of all faiths and no faith to be used in teaching one faith.

Government loans are attractive. For the most part, they are long-term, low-interest arrangements. They carry their stipulations, however, and these must be recognized.

Most Baptists would agree with that principle. It is compatible with the concept of separation of church and state. Baptists helped instill and protect this concept, and we would agree with any decision that would support it.

We would not want to use public money to teach Baptist doctrine just as we would not want some other religious body using public money to teach its own doctrine.

We don't like government interference in private education, and the best way to avoid it is to stay away from public funds. HEW correctly forbids worship and sectarian teaching in building funded in whole or in part by HEW loans or grants. This means, in addition to avoiding secta-

rian teaching of Bible courses, that chapel services also must not be religious in nature.

This Baptist college has made its mistake, and it is paying dearly. To its credit, however, it is complying with the regulations and is seeking to raise funds with which to build a college chapel with classroom and office space for its religion department.

Every religiously affiliated institution that has looked longingly at federal loans as a means of financing new construction will have to give attention to the consequences before entering into such arrangements.

Federal bureaucratic tentacles are encircling us. Some might wonder why it is that the federal government has got so much of our money that it can give some of it back, but that is another subject. There was that saying, from some years back, which indicated that the fellow who had paid the musicians was privileged to name the song to be played. They said, "He who pays the piper calls the tune."

When there is federal money involved there will be federal control exercised. And rightly so.

Be There Sunday!

Churches all across the Southern Baptist Convention will be placing a special emphasis on Bible Teaching Oct. 31 as they try to reach new records in Sunday School on High Attendance Sunday.

This annual emphasis is very worthwhile. High attendance is always desirable, and surely once each year is not too often for an all-out, nationwide effort to have more in Sunday School studying the Bible than ever before.

This is not an effort to justify the emphasis. This is to urge all readers to show up for Sunday School this Sunday morning.

The nationwide goal for Sunday is five million in Sunday School. In Mississippi the goal is 255,000. That

should not be a difficult attendance to register. There are more than 400,000 resident Southern Baptists in Mississippi in addition to all of the children of those families who have not become church members yet. A goal of 255,000 should be easily within reach.

This Sunday is the time for everyone who misses from time to time to be sure this is not one of those times. And it is the time for all those who don't get started early enough on Sunday morning to get to Sunday School to get up a little earlier and go find out what it's all about.

Organized Bible study is worthwhile for all who will expose themselves to it. Sunday is the day for all of us to take part in it.

Personally . . .

It is always an interesting privilege to be out in meetings across the state. Last week I attended the annual meeting of Leflore Baptist Association at First Baptist Church, Greenwood. This is a beautiful new building, and I enjoyed the occasion.

The meeting was closed by the presentation of "Alleluia" by the combined choirs of First Baptist Church of Greenville and North Greenwood Baptist Church. It was well done and a beautiful rendition. I am always inspired when I have a chance to hear "Alleluia." This was a real plus to what was a delightful meeting anyway. Kenneth Forbus, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Greenville, was the director.

Letters To The Editor

Don't Burn Notes

Dear Sir:

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you and your staff for the marvelous Baptist Record, though I'm from Louisiana. (I am a native Mississippian.)

Since this is a special year for America I have read much and really learned the importance of history. It changes, so, I'm making a request that you as a member of your staff write an article, or copy parts of what I've said concerning history. This leads me to say, let's stop note burnings. Let's keep these documents as whatever, so our children can see and touch these papers, shovels first used in groundbreaking, and other items.

I attempted to get information from Baton Rouge Library and Louisiana State University concerning these beginnings but they had no information. I seem to have created quite a stir among many church members in favor of using these items for future value.

I saved the ashes from a note-burning ceremony at the last church my husband pastored, put them in a baby-food jar, labeled them, and presented them to a lady who agrees with me. I also gave her a picture of the actual note-burning. The children in Sunday School where she teaches are extremely proud of these items.

Sincerely,
Vera A. Martin

church experienced an increase of 42 percent in the average Sunday School attendance over 1975! The growth was also reflected in the financial program of the church. Last year, 1975, was the first year for Fellowship to adopt and publish a budget. While the budget was modest, \$14,035, the giving for the year totaled \$21,634 — an increase over last year of over 40 percent. Total mission giving was \$3,001 and gifts to the Cooperative Program were \$1,908 — an increase of over 100 percent over last year.

No one person can nor should take credit for this growth. God has done the blessing while His people did the work. This is all HIS doing!!!

I am grateful to be a part of a truly live, vibrant church where people are concerned about others. There was an almost 100 percent increase in the additions to the church over 1975. Obviously, God is at work in our community.

As an instructor in one of our Baptist schools, I especially appreciate the role of missions in our churches and hope that this report will inspire other churches to give liberally through our cooperative program.

May our Lord bless you as you serve Him.
James Spencer
Enterprise

Baptist Student Convention

Dear Sir:

Last week our church was privileged to host the 1976 State Baptist Student Union Convention. As usual it was an outstanding experience for all who attended, but the true benefit and blessing belongs to our church. Never have I witnessed the depth of faith, the vitality of worship, and the quality of behavior as was evidenced in these Mississippi Baptist collegians.

In the aftermath of this experience I find that I am compelled to express my thankfulness for many things: for the colleges of this state who encouragingly allow the dynamic witness of B.S.U. to have its effect; for the B.S.U. program and its effective efforts to evangelize and edify our children while they are away from home; for the parents of these young people who have taught them so well in the ways of our Lord; and finally for these collegiate Christians who devotedly put Christ above compromise and boldness above tact.

Impressed upon my mind and heart this week is a vision for our world and its future that I did not have before the convention. The difference was made by a group of young people who came together in Laurel for the purpose of giving themselves and our world to our Lord.

These B.S.U. students were most generous in their acknowledgment of gratitude to us for our opening of church, homes, and hearts to them. However, we are the ones who feel the need to say "thank you." Already we wish that they could return to us again next year, but that would be selfish on our part. Therefore, I take this moment to encourage the churches of Mississippi to consider hosting the Convention in your city as soon as possible. Your hospitality will definitely have an influence upon these young people; but more important, they will have an even greater impact upon you and your church.

Jim Keith, Pastor
First Baptist Church, Laurel

On The Moral Scene

LIQUOR DEADLY TO CHILDREN—Many may not realize it, but liquor is a deadly poison to children and there is no known antidote, the Health Insurance Institute says. It advises parents of small children to rinse out all glasses and place liquor out of children's reach after a social gathering at home to avoid temptation for any early rising small fry the next morning. —(The Tennessean, September 1, 1976)

Fallout Food Rots—According to the San Francisco Examiner and Chronicle, \$150 million worth of badly needed food, enough to feed 100 million people for 60 days, is spoiling in U. S. fallout shelters. Because the food was packed to last 5 years and has been in storage 13 to 15 years, fast action is needed to save the half estimated to be still in usable condition. —(Bread Lines, August 1976)



NATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Some things happen to you without any apparent reason. Later on, you see how they fit into the whole scheme of your life. If in college I had not accidentally minored in Spanish I might never have met two of the most remarkable people I know.

In 1966, Orvil and Alma Reid sent out an appeal for persons who could "speak or read Spanish" to come and help them for a month in Guadalajara, Mexico. I went on the bus, a day and a night from Laredo, for \$5.10. In admiration I watched the Reids direct 82 volunteer teachers of Vacation Bible Schools and English classes all over the city, in addition to continuing their regular mission work.

We stayed in the Baptist Student Home pictured in *Stronger Than Mushrooms*, the adult mission study book for this fall. (The book tells the story of how Orvil began the student home.) Mexican young people came for the frequent fiestas where there would be flamenco music or other entertainment. With my own eyes, at one fiesta, I saw a station wagon roll over Orvil's stomach, but I still didn't believe it. I saw somebody place a huge rock on his stomach and break it up with a sledge hammer while Orvil sang a song.

Ten years later, at 68, he's still doing those impossible feats, plus more. As you read in the Baptist Record last week, he had just arrived in Richmond after running all the way from Atlanta. On October 11 he and Alma officially retired. He had been missionary to Mexico for 38 years, and she for only a few years less.

If you put off your exercises like I do mine — I'm going to start riding my bicycle every day, beginning tomorrow — then you know he didn't get in that great shape overnight. He started a long time ago, and has exercised regularly every day since. Orvil said that when he was in college he was greatly impressed by an 85-year-old athlete who could lift a 200-pound weight with one hand and who could place a potato on a student's neck and slice it with a sword, without cutting the student's neck. He determined to have that kind of strength himself. In Mexico, he used athletic demonstrations in his campaign for clean living, especially in the fight against alcohol.

In Mexico they say you are not fully dressed if you don't wear a smile. Orvil and Alma always wear their smiles. Both like to joke. They glow with joy.

Their only daughter, Anita, died at age 15. Once I heard Alma say, "I'd rather live fifteen years and be as full of fun, and as dedicated to Christ as Anita, than to live a long life with a long, sad face."

I have felt a special kinship with Alma because we were prayer partners during the Crusade of the Americas. When I visited the

Reids in Tuxtla Gutierrez in 1974, they told me why he called her his "mail-order bride." Orvil was a widower with a small son when he met Alma at a conference in Texas. Alma was editorial assistant at the Baptist Sunday School Board (she helped Arthur Flake to edit his book, *Life at Eighty*). The two corresponded for a while and then she went to Mexico for a visit. While she was there they were married in Mexico City.

Orvil has a flair for the dramatic, in his writing of articles and poetry, in his speaking, and in promotion of mission activities. He told about stopping a long time ago in the street of a Mexican village to tell Bible stories. He acted out the roles of the various characters. About 20 or 25 drunks with knives and guns formed a close-knit circle around him and wouldn't be chased away. The women and children were afraid to come closer, because of the drunks, and stood far off. Finally Orvil led the men in singing a song. Then he told them the story of David and Goliath. He pantomimed picking up the giant's bloody head by the hair, and the drunks' eyes got bigger and bigger. Orvil asked, "Are there any drunks — I mean are there any giants here? Yes, there's the giant of alcohol, the giant of tobacco, the giant of temptation." He told them how Jesus could help to kill those giants.

The Reids are compassionate and generous and unselfish. Just in my brief visits with them, I could see that in Mexico they are greatly loved.

Their son, Rod, a teacher and coach, died in a boating accident off the coast of Oregon in 1967. Though they lost their only daughter and then their only son, they are the happiest, most victorious Christians I have known. Their spiritual faith is as strong as Orvil's physical strength. They have exercised it as much.

When Roderick was four, after his mother's death, Orvil took him to stay for a time with an aunt in Oklahoma. During that time the missionary wrote these lines to his son: "Nobody knows how I love you; / Nobody knows but God. / Nobody knows the heartache, / Who never the path has trod / Nobody knows how empty / Your absence has left my heart. / Nobody? Yes, there's Someone, / Who gave up his Son for me. / He knows all the pain and the heartache; / He suffered it all for me."

Now that they have retired, I understand that they plan to travel in Africa and on other continents where he will give athletic demonstrations and both will continue to be Christian witnesses.

To paraphrase Orvil, "Thank you, dear Lord, that you called them to go, and serve you those years in Old Mexico!"

Orvil and Alma — *yo te amo!*

I thank God for the Cooperative Program of Southern Baptists. This means of sharing in world mission ministry is one of the greatest the Lord has given to Christians and churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention. Few churches could actually carry out the Great Commission of our Lord (Matthew 28:19-20) by themselves.

Harold H. Coble.

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515 Mississippi Street
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Don McGregor Editor
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate
William H. Sellers Bus. Manager

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Earl Kelly
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
The Baptist Building
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The Church That Refused To Die

By W. Levon Moore

Bowlin Church in western Attala County appeared to be one of those rural churches destined to die. It had all the characteristics of a dying church. Located in a rather remote area, population around it was sparse, the one-room building offered no extra facilities, and it was one of the few churches which had no electricity and no running water. The only service being held was a once-a-month preaching service on Sunday afternoon, and



A Woman's World Reaches Far
Beyond the Ironing Board

On my way to several places I go fairly often I travel on a pretty, neat well-kept street. There are yards with flowers and shrubs, many trees shading both yards and street.

For the years that I have been driving along that street there has been a speed limit sign with a very clear 30 on it. Sunday morning as I came into sight of it, I read a very clear 80 on it. The artist who had painted that 80 had used, very carefully, a can of black spray paint to alter the 3 to become an 8. Whatever the artist's age, he had done nothing to change the speed limit for which that sign stood. Had I sped up to 80 and been blue-lighted to a stop by a policeman, that sign would have been no defense whatsoever.

During the rest of my short trip that morning I thought of other signs I had seen changed by the spray-can artists of America, some the results of which were humorous in spite of the fact that the act was defamation of public property.

But I also thought of other signs I had seen changed in which only the hearts, minds, and probably, souls have been affected. There is one in the lives of Christians which indicates that we are to keep our bodies holy; yet, we alter it to say, One or two desecrations along, with a food I know I am not supposed to eat, or a few beers with the fellows, or a cigarette or two to ease my tension, or a dirty movie or novel just for kicks, none of these will really hurt.

And the one that reads, No adultery. It's re-written to include a little harmless flirtation, a secret phone call, an accidental running into the other person, a rationalizing that once or twice never hurt anyone, especially if nobody finds out.

Too, the one about honesty. It becomes, I'll lie about this mess until I get it straightened out, or, It's my word against his and they'll believe me. Maybe, in the area of human relationships, it is changed to, if he had not done what he did, I wouldn't have done what I did, becoming a dishonesty in not accepting responsibility for one's behavior and reactions.

It really doesn't matter how hard we work to re-write a rule, does it, if it is one of God's eternal ones. We really don't change it at all. Nor do we change the consequences of following the altered rule.

It's all a part of the goodness of God that He gave us the best rules to begin with. If they needed to be altered, He would have altered them before He gave them. And that's the truth.

attendance had dwindled to an average of less than a dozen people.

Organized in 1879, the church was one of the strong forces in Attala Baptist life for several decades. The building dominating the crown of the small hill upon which it is located. Picturesque in its setting, the white frame church is typical of hundreds of church buildings located across the state half a century ago. At one time, the community was full of people, but now the population has dwindled.

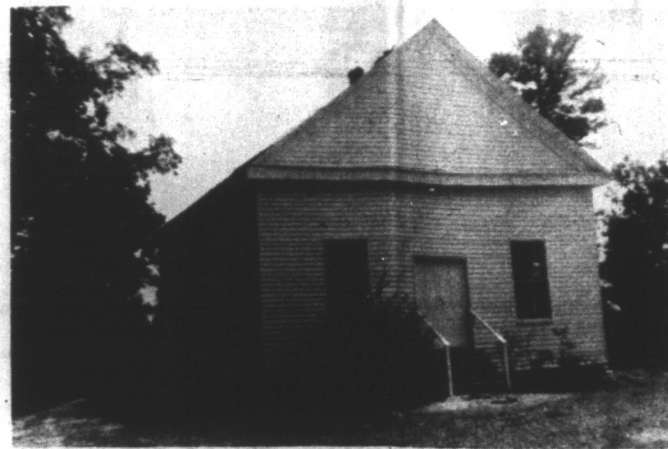
The church would have died many years ago, except for the dedication of one person who refused to let it die. Mrs. Hiram Kettle grew up in that church. Her mother and father grew up there and raised their family under the influence of the church. "Just over there by that side door is where my mother always placed the quilt where the babies slept during the services," fondly recalled the white-haired lady as she pointed to the spot where her church life began. In recent years she kept the church doors opened, built the fires in winter time, kept the building clean and kept the monthly services going.

A turning point in the church's life began in July of 1975 when Rev. Joe Anderson, pastor of the McAdams Church, became the pastor at Bowlin.

Because of his full-time responsibilities at McAdams, his time at Bowlin was limited, but he began to cultivate the members of the church and the people who lived in the community. Perhaps the greatest thing Brother Joe gave the church was a vision to become more than it was at that time. And it did become more.

During his ministry as pastor, there were approximately 20 additions to the church with two of these being by baptism. The church voted to go "full

time" by having services each Sunday morning at nine o'clock. They also voted to begin a Sunday School at ten o'clock. They have made plans to ordain some deacons which the church has not had for many years. A pulpit committee has been elected to search for a pastor. A moderator has been elected and the second Sunday of each month has been designated as the time for business meeting. A Wednesday night prayer meeting has been started and thirty-six were present the first



Bowlin Church

Sunday School Teacher Retires After 50 Years



Mrs. Gladys Cooper Winstead, a member of Springfield Church, Morton, retired September 26 after teaching Sunday School there fifty years.

The church honored her by dedicating the day's bulletin and the morning worship service to her. She was also presented a corsage by Kendall Winstead, Sunday School director. Dr. Poy Rogers, interim pastor had special comments to direct to Mrs. Winstead during a period of special recognition.

The bulletin expressed "grateful appreciation and recognition of the Christian service she has given to past and present generations, as well as the future generations, who will be the beneficiaries of her teachings, leadership and guidance."

The bulletin statement also said: "In 2 Timothy 2:15, Paul exhorts each of us as he did Timothy to 'Study to show thyself approved unto God...' and this she has done, having received

the highest numbers of church study course awards of anyone on record in this church. She has served in the following capacities since October 1926 when her Sunday School teaching career began: in the Intermediate department, then the Young Married Adult class and in more recent years the T.E.L. (older adults) class. She received a 10-year pin for perfect attendance in SS from 1964-1974. She served as Superintendent of Training from October, 1961 through September, 1975. She served as church treasurer from 1963 through September, 1975. At some time during these 50 years she also has served as church pianist and for many years was a member of the choir in the alto section. She also gave her talents in singing in quartets and sometimes in duets with her beloved late husband, Josie Winstead. The piano which we enjoy today was a gift from her in memory of her husband. Many B.T.U. and V.B.S. classes in years gone by have also benefited from her expertise as a teacher. Certainly her love of teaching and sharing a part of herself with others was also evidenced in the many years she spent as teacher in the public school system of Mississippi.

"Her retirement from teaching and other positions of responsibility in our church above and beyond the call to prayer and fellowship will give her more time to reflect upon her accomplishments and the fruits of her labors over the past years, but most importantly—to be able to lift to Him in her prayers, the efforts of those of us still laboring always at our best!"

262 Air Force Men Baptized In Korea

TAEJON, Korea—More than 260 men were baptized in a single service on an air force training command base near here recently.

Immersion of these 262 men constituted the largest single baptismal service in the Republic of Korea's Air Force history, according to Southern Baptist Missionary Rolla M. Bradley.

Chaplains, missionaries, pastors and laymen participated in the service that was held in a military bath house.

Much work is being done with the army as well as the air force. The Non-san post is the main recruitment training center for the army. The Baptist center there ministers to nine recruit training regiments or about 35,000 men. On the average, some 12,000 persons per month have visited the Baptist center in the 10 years it has been there, according to Bradley's report.

While the government is in the process of renovating the post, the Korea Baptist Mission is requesting \$30,000 to help build a new \$45,000 evangelistic center. At this time, the Baptist center is the only non-military Christian and religious witness on the post. However, Buddhist leaders have been given permission to locate there.

More than 15,000 military men throughout Korea made decisions in the first half of this year, 22 per cent of which have been professions of faith. During 1975, some 1,942 service men made professions of faith and were baptized in Korea.

"Oak trees are born in the grave of an acorn."—Jess Moody

Southwestern

Alumni To Hear Curtis Vaughan

(FORT WORTH, Tex.)—Dr. Curtis Vaughan, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Seminary, will speak at the annual meeting of the seminary's Mississippi alumni association on November 17.

The group will meet at noon for lunch at Parkway Church, Jackson. The meeting is being held during the Mississippi Baptist state convention.

Allen Webb, pastor of Ingalls Avenue Church, Pascagoula, is president of the seminary's Mississippi association and will preside at the meeting.

Actor Now Reading From A Different Script

By Dale Helmbold

FT. WORTH, TX.—Two years ago, Walter Price began a professional career in acting. Now the Mississippi native is reading lines from a different script.

The Mississippian is joined by over three thousand other students at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary who have varied and interesting backgrounds. Price got his start in acting in Tupelo, where he grew up. All through high school and then at Mississippi College he acted. After graduation, he was admissions counselor at Mississippi College. During this time he led music at revivals throughout Mississippi. He also participated in programs at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. Then in January 1974 he left for California.

"I had thought about going before," explained Price. "But I never did. This time, though, I had a feeling God was opening the door for the last time."

After Price reached Burbank it was only a matter of hours before he got his first acting assignment. "I thought Hey! This is going to be easy!"

But it seems God led Price to

California for something more than acting. "I really believe God took me there so He could break me and make me what He wanted me to be."

Price became involved at Central Baptist Church in Burbank. "The Lord began to bring influences in my life," he said. "The idea of the Spirit-filled life and dying to self began to take shape. My whole life began to open up spiritually."

Price became involved in a Bible study and began writing songs. He completed over 50 religious and secular songs, plus a musical—"Remember." He had parts in educational films, plays, a TV movie and a film.

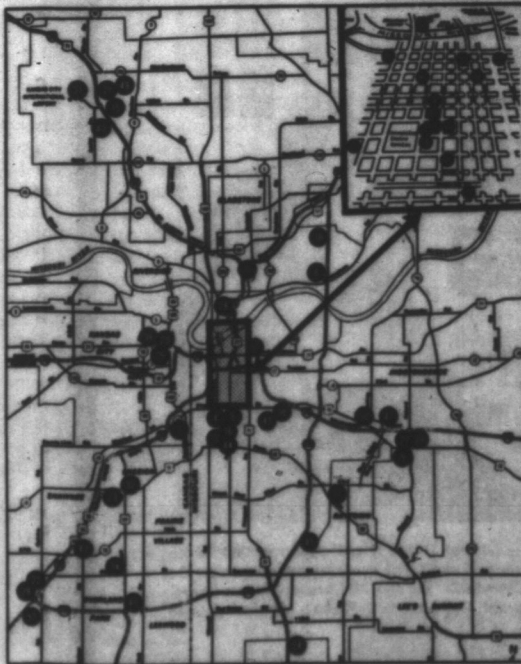
"Out of these experiences evolved a leading into the ministry," Price explained. Now he is at Southwestern, looking toward a teaching/preaching role.

When asked about his acting, Price said, "I haven't ruled out the possibility of God using it. I still love acting and would like to act." Music isn't out for him either. He realizes it could open up a whole new area. "I believe God's will is a continuing thing."



HOTEL	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TWIN	SUITE
1. Admiral Pease 1400 Admiral Blvd. 642-0108	\$14.00-22.00	\$22.00	\$16.00-18.00	
2. Adelaide 1215 Wyndolite 642-0371	\$14.00-20.00	\$24.00-30.00		\$55.00-80.00
3. Alameda Plaza Ward Parkway @ Normal Rd. 756-1500	\$35.00-37.00	\$44.00-45.00	\$44.00-45.00	
4. Ambassador 3580 Broadway 753-7300	\$16.00	\$18.50-25.00	\$19.00-25.00	Apartment \$35.00
5. Bellevue 214 East Armour 753-6565	\$14.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$25.00
6. Breckenridge 1-25 & Front Street 642-7900	\$28.00-30.00	\$37.00	\$37.00	\$55.00
7. Continental-East Western 2520 Rainbow Blvd. 238-5800		\$22.00-23.00	\$23.00-24.00	
8. Continental 111th & Baltimore 421-0000	\$18.00-24.00	\$24.00-30.00	\$26.00-33.00	\$34.00-50.00
9. Cottage Inn 13900 E. 40 Hwy. 254-3300		\$12.50-16.00	\$14.50-18.00	
10. Crown Center One Parkview Road 474-4400	\$33.00-43.00	\$44.00-54.00	\$44.00-54.00	\$84.00-104.00 \$126.00-148.00
11. Day's Inn North 1-25 & Antioch Road 642-6000	\$11.50-14.50	\$15.50-18.50		
12. Bloom Inn 1215 Baltimore 642-0317	\$15.00-22.00	\$19.00-26.00	\$20.00-26.00	\$55.00 \$110.00
13. Executive Motor 13th & Washington 642-0536	\$16.00-18.00	\$20.00-24.00		
14. Glenwood Manor 6200 E. 50 Hwy. 446-7000		\$34.00-36.00		
15. Hilton Airport Place Inn 6001 NW 112th Street 691-6000	\$25.00-32.00	\$32.00-39.00		\$75.00-105.00
16. Hilton Plaza Inn 421st & Main 753-7400	\$27.00-34.00	\$35.00-42.00		\$65.00-90.00
17. Holiday Inn Blue Parkway 8500 E. 50 Hwy. 363-3000	\$15.50-18.00	\$21.00-27.00		
18. Holiday Inn 121st & Wyndolite 221-0000	\$27.00	\$32.00	\$35.00-39.00 \$42.00	\$75.00 \$115.00
19. Holiday Inn Fun World 7323 Parkview Road 426-1000	\$19.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	
20. Holiday Inn Sheraton 425 Minnesota 621-3000	\$17.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	
21. Holiday Inn 621 11832 Plaza Circle 464-2345	\$20.00	\$25.00		
22. Holiday Inn Lodges 1-25 at 95th Street 689-0670	\$19.50	\$24.50	\$24.50	
23. Holiday Inn Resort Park 7240 West Blvd 262-3010	\$28.50		\$30.00	
24. Holiday Inn 11801 Blue Ridge Exp. 793-0800	\$14.00	\$17.00	\$20.00	
25. Holiday Inn Towers 426 Minnesota 342-4519				
26. Holiday Inn Towers 1st N. & Broadway 642-4700	\$16.00	\$21.00	\$23.00	

HOTEL	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TWIN	SUITE
27. Howard Johnson's East 4200 Roland Road, South 461-8056	\$20.00-25.00	\$24.00-28.00	\$28.00-32.00	
28. Howard Johnson's West 1800 N.E. Russell Rd. 453-5236	\$18.00-20.00	\$22.00-24.00	\$23.00-26.00	\$30.00
29. Howard Johnson's Southwest 12281 W. 95th Street 888-5400	\$19.00-24.00	\$23.00-24.00	\$28.00-30.00	
30. Ramada Control 610 Washington 421-1000	\$21.00-31.00	\$27.00-37.00	\$27.00-37.00	
31. Marriott 775 Franklin Ave. 464-2200	\$30.00-36.00	\$36.00-42.00		\$65.00-70.00 \$85.00-105.00
32. Mission Inn 2520 W. 63rd St. 262-5400	\$14.00-16.00	\$16.50-19.00		
33. Phillips House 12th & Baltimore 471-5000	\$22.00	\$26.00		
34. President 14th & Baltimore 471-5440	\$17.00-23.00	\$24.00-26.00	\$28.00-32.00	
35. Price Sheraton 8th & Main 642-6000	\$20.00-26.00	\$26.00-32.00	\$26.00-32.00	\$36.00-60.00 \$75.00
36. Quality Inn 1-70 & 40 Highway 641-6000	\$15.00	\$19.00	\$20.00	
37. Radisson Washington 12th & Baltimore 471-1400	\$19.00-27.00	\$25.00-37.00		\$60.00-100.00
38. Ramada Inn Center City 7th & State Ave. 251-6000	\$16.00	\$20.00-32.00	\$24.00-28.00	
39. Ramada Inn East 4141 S. Roland Road 633-4300	\$22.00	\$27.00		
40. Ramada Inn 621 7201 NW Tiffany Springs 741-0000	\$16.00-19.00	\$23.00-25.00	\$23.00-25.00	
41. Ramada Inn Southwest 6101 E. 27th Street 765-4331	\$18.50-24.50	\$24.50-32.50	\$24.50-32.50	
42. Ramada Inn Southwest 6787 Boulder Road 889-6445	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$29.00-31.00	
43. Ramada Inn Sudbury 5100 East Linwood 861-0000	\$14.00	\$20.00	\$24.00	
44. Rayport 323 West Parkway 756-3000	\$30.00-40.00	\$40.00-50.00	\$45.00-55.00	\$43.00-48.00
45. Redway Inn Overland Park 2000 W. 10th Street 383-2550	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	
46. Savoy 219 West 9th St. 642-2075	\$10.00	\$12.00		
47. Sheraton Royal 9100 E. 28th Street 737-0200	\$23.00-29.00	\$28.00-34.00	\$38.00-34.00	
48. Travelodge 621 Quarry 471-1200	\$17.00	\$19.00-22.00	\$22.00-25.00	
49. Travelodge 621 11828 Plaza Circle 464-2300	\$20.00-24.00	\$25.00-29.00	\$25.00-29.00	
50. U-South Station Inn 7001 West 40 Hwy. 861-0000	\$14.00	\$20.00	\$26.00-24.00	\$36.00
51. Capitol 1427 Independence Ave. 471-0000	\$14.00	\$17.00-18.00	\$25.00	
52. Day's Inn Lodges 1-25 at 95th 682-7200	\$10.00	\$15.00-18.00		



SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION APPLICATION FOR HOTEL OR MOTEL RESERVATIONS

Kansas City, Missouri—June 14-16, 1977

Please fill out form completely and mail to:

SBC Housing Bureau
1221 Baltimore
Kansas City, Missouri 64105

RESERVATIONS TO BE CLEARED THROUGH THE SBC HOUSING BUREAU. Each request must give definite date and approximate hour of arrival, and include names and addresses of all persons who will occupy the rooms requested. If it should become necessary to cancel a reservation, please notify the SBC Housing Bureau promptly. At least four choices of hotels or motels are desirable. Reservations will be filled in order of date of receipt. Processing of reservations to begin October 1, 1976.

If accommodations at the hotel/motel of your choice are not available, the Housing Bureau will make a reservation elsewhere as near your request as possible, and you will receive confirmation directly from the hotel/motel.

HOTEL OR MOTEL PREFERENCES

1st Choice _____
2nd Choice _____
3rd Choice _____
4th Choice _____
ARRIVAL DATE _____ at _____

MORE OF TRAVEL: Automobile ☐ Plane ☐ Bus ☐ Other ☐

NAMES OF ALL OCCUPANTS:
(Please bracket those sharing room)

MAIL CONFIRMATION TO:

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Southern Baptist Convention	June 14-16
Women's Missionary Union	June 12-13
Pastors' Conference	June 12-13
Religious Education Association	June 12-13
Church Music Conference	June 12-13

Beautiful Girl Finds Journeyman Service Rewarding

By Sarah Peugh

A 24 year old Mississippi girl has returned home from Japan after two years there in journeyman service for the Foreign Mission Board.

Connie Ellard Fleming returned to Aberdeen with cherished, fulfilling memories of her journeyman experience. Two years before as Connie stepped out of a 747 at Kokura-Kitaku, Kitakyushu, Japan, she was seeking God's will for her life. She had become a Christian when she was 11. She had studied and dreamed of far-off mission fields in GA at First Baptist Church. While attending Girls' Auxiliary 50th Anniversary Convention in Memphis in 1963, she felt a call to be a missionary. Because she was so young, no one took her over-seriously. But as her former GA counselor, Mrs. Jack Holleman of Houston, says, "When God has His hands upon a person for special service, He keeps them there."

Through a series of events in God's plan and purpose, Connie's dream and call became a reality. She finished school, married, went to college. But in the height of youth, beauty, and happiness, Connie, at 21, lost her husband in a tragic automobile accident during her sophomore year.

"In loneliness I turned to God for a better understanding of myself, realizing I had accepted many things from Him, the church, and other Christians and had given very little in return. My family physician, Dr. R. E. Coghlan, a fine Christian, gave me tremendous strength and encouragement after Phillip's death, suggesting I return to college. So, I advise others in loneliness, in anger, in frustration, and in lack of understanding of yourself, do not harbor feelings against the Lord, but face life through Him."

"After graduation from Mississippi State in 1974, I began to look around for a more concrete way to share. I had majored in English and had offers for teaching positions but was groping and searching for fulfillment. A friend recommended the Journeyman program, serving Christ two years on a foreign mission field."

Connie applied to the Foreign Mission Board, sending in her application, a biographical sketch, the 15 references required, and a personal doctrinal statement. On the application, she listed Hong Kong, Laos, and Japan as preferences. Only through a call from nationals or a career missionary for help, would the FMB send a journeyman to fill the need. "Where would God lead?" Connie wondered.

Seinan Jo Gakuin School for Japanese girls in Kokura needed a young American English major to teach English and English Bible classes. This was Connie's call. She had learned in GA about the school and had prayed for missionaries there. Now she was going to be one of the missionaries.

There was much preparation. Following the application process, Connie was called to Dallas for an interview.

She took a rigid physical. Next, she was given a language test followed by an additional seven weeks of training at Meredith Baptist College, Raleigh, N. C.

Thus Connie Ellard Fleming became a Journeyman. She felt a profound peace of being in the will of the Lord as she first walked into the Air Terminal in Japan. Now she was in a country of 110 million the size of California where one percent are Christians.

Christians.

"I found the Japanese warm. I also found that when a Japanese Christian takes a step against the majority, there is pressure from the culture and from his or her family."

"In Kokura I worked with career missionary Mary Swedenburg, Janice House, and Charleen Robinson who was my roommate. My classes were in junior high and in junior college. I taught five English classes of 25 students each, oral, composition, and drama. On Sundays I taught English Bible classes at Kokura Baptist Church."

"One great blessing was winning Noriko Kaneko to Christ on Easter. Noriko followed me to the States and visited in the home of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Ellard. We took her to a college in Winston-Salem, N. C., where she is studying English for two years."

Connie Ellard Fleming is home now feeling special rewards from her Journeyman service. One her wall is a plaque inscribed "appreciation is hereby expressed to Connie Fleming in Japan for service as a Journeyman in behalf of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Signed: James G. Harris, President; Baker J. Cauthen, Executive Secretary."

Like Connie Ellard Fleming, the Journeyman program has fulfilled the lives of 806 persons who have served in 34 countries.

Tim Sheppard To Sing In Concert

At Sunshine

Tim Sheppard will be presented in concert at Sunshine Church, Rankin County, on Sunday, October 31, at 2:30 p.m.

Tommy Smith, minister of music and youth at Sunshine, says about the guest musician: "Tim sings, writes songs, plays the piano and does it all with a special kind of magic. His hopes, joys, fears and observations are related in his very personal songs that reflect both talents and his viewpoint."

In 1975 Tim Sheppard won the Amateur Gospel award of the American Song Festival with his song, "Sweet Lovin' Grace."

In addition to recording with Benson Publishing Company of Nashville, he ministers in churches, colleges, youth camps, and coffeehouses across the United States.

The Rev. Mike Willoughby is pastor at Sunshine.

Acteen Royalty

Note: Because of space limitations, the Baptist Record no longer prints stories or pictures of GA and Acteen recognition and coronation services! However, a column similar to this one will be printed at regular intervals on the Youth Page, with names of Queens, Queens-with-Scepter, Queens-Regent, and Queens-Regent-in-Service. If you send names of your latest ones to achieve "royalty," we will list them here.

Queens

Edon (Jasper)
Freda McCarty
Morrison Heights, Clinton
Michele Bryant
Cathy Corley
Becky DeWett
Carolyn Edwards
Cheri Nazary
Linda Newton
Lori Turcotte
Sandra Wade
Amy Wall
Karen Wilson
Lake Como, Bay Springs
Donna Ellis
Gail Cook
Stacy Thigpen
Calvary, Tupelo
Sherry Swartz
Marcie McCord
Sandi Steward

Queens-with-Scepter

Morrison Heights, Clinton
Karen Curtis
Suzanne Johnston
Calvary, Tupelo
Molly Lyons
Angela Whaley
Jackie Chancey

Queens Regent

Morrison Heights, Clinton
Paul Murphy
Calvary, Tupelo
Tammy Gray
Beth Davenport
Edon (Jasper)
Pam Clark
Connie James
Sarah Jane McCarty
Kim Stringer



Connie Ellard Fleming, left, chats about her life as a Journeyman in Japan, with Sarah Peugh of Aberdeen, her former GA director.

Today's Youth

Student Teams To Go "Cross Country"

NASHVILLE — Operation Cross Country, a new project designed to actively involve students in ministry to

churches, uses teams of college students to provide short-term assistance to churches in newer convention areas.

"Churchmanship is a special year-long emphasis to draw attention to the local church in today's society, and is at the heart of Operation Cross Country," explained David Hazelwood, consultant in new work development, National Student Ministries of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

A total of 17 state Baptist conventions fall into the newer convention category, which are those established since 1940.

Teams range will include four to 40 students who are trained and sent by one church to help another with a special task. Activities vary from leading backyard Bible clubs and youth revivals to taking part in church renovations and community surveys. Teams serve during quarter, semester, spring or special vacation breaks, usually for five to 10 days.

To send or receive a specific Operation Cross Country team, churches should approach the team directly by notifying the church's pastor. Churches needing a referral of available teams should contact their state convention's department of student ministries. Also, National Student Ministries at the Sunday School Board will assist in recommending and training teams as requested.

Each June, National Student Ministries will publish a list of churches requesting teams. To be included on the mailing list, write National Student Ministries Consultant, New Work Development, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

London (EP) — A British edition of the Bible gives measures in meters, centimeters and kilograms. Goliath in the British Bible is no longer six cubits and a span tall, but instead reaches nearly three meters. His coat of armor, which once weighed 5,000 shekels of brass is now recorded at 57 kilograms.

How To Get To The Top

By Evie Landrum Goodrich

Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us (Hebrews 12:1).

Several young men were beginning a sightseeing journey and planned to reach the peak of one of the tallest mountains. In the group was a very obstinate youth who gave no heed to the guide's advice to take nothing with them if they planned to reach their goal.

The young man, who was determined to do as he pleased, said that he would take his camera, a record book, and cookies and wine. He went first up the mountain. As others followed, they found his camera along the way, later on his record book, and

then his refreshments. When they reached the top of the mountain they found him. He was exhausted but had succeeded in reaching his goal. He had found though that every weight had to be discarded in order for him to be successful.

We should pause for a while and think of our weights and our besetting sins. We might find selfishness, stubbornness, hatred, and too much love for the things of the world. Whatever these hindrances are, we should confess them, and ask God for forgiveness. Then our lives can be filled with peace and joy.

As Dr. Sampey, my Old Testament teacher, used to say, "Begin the day with God. Get your marching orders for the day, and then go back at the day's end to give your report."

Following Summer Mission Trip

Unity Supports New Mexico Mission



100 At Oak Grove Youth Rally

Oak Grove Church, Yazoo County, was host for a youth rally Saturday night, October 16. Over 100 young people were present to hear Byron Cutrer and the youth from Magnolia Church provide special music.

Rev. Gibbie McMillan, pastor of Ogden Church, Yazoo County, was the devotional speaker.

A number of decisions were made as the result of a stirring film, "Eighteen."

Rev. Ellis Moore, pastor at Oak Grove, presided over the meeting which was held jointly with that of "Youth for the Master."

Among guest musicians invited for programs in the coming months are "The Villagers" from Baptist Children's Village; youth from First Church, Pearl; and Bill Clark of Jackson. All churches in Yazoo Association are invited to participate.

"Missions came alive this summer for the people of Unity Church, Picaune. The youth of Unity and seven adults were summer missionaries to Silver City, New Mexico," reports Doyle Cooper, minister of youth!

The group was divided into three separate teaching units, each being able to conduct and teach a mission Bible school. Three Bible schools were conducted each morning and three each afternoon. The teams would begin one hour prior to teaching by going into the communities and rounding up all the students.

The first day's activities reached 170 youths. By the end of the week they were able to reach 377 youths; 75 were won to the Lord, 66 youths, and nine adults.

The Unity pastor, Rev. James W. Hickman, preached in two churches and was the speaker at a downtown rally in Silver City where 23 people were saved. The youths brought messages in song and testimony in several of the local churches, and at the downtown rally.

The missionary to the Silver City area, Bill Rutledge, asked the church to consider praying about supporting the first Spanish-speaking church in this area. To make a long story short, they are now supporting "Mission Baptists Unity," both in prayer and finances.

NOVEMBER 6-7

blue mountain college

Blue Mountain College Invites You To A Weekend Of

- * FUN
- * INFORMATION
- * INSPIRATION



PLANNING A GREAT TIME FOR YOU — LaAnne Travis (right) goes over some of the plans for BMC's High School Weekend November 6 and 7 with committee chairmen for the big event. They are (from left) Lee Tanner, Memphis; Carolyn McChesney, Poplar Grove, Arkansas; Vicki Williams, Amory; Suzie Spruill, Gulfport; Beth Walker, Mendenhall; and Connie Clements, Corinth.

November 6-7, 1976, is high school weekend at BMC, and we promise a time filled with fun, information, and inspiration. From the time you register Saturday morning until you leave on Sunday afternoon, you will see Blue Mountain up close... to help you make up your own mind.

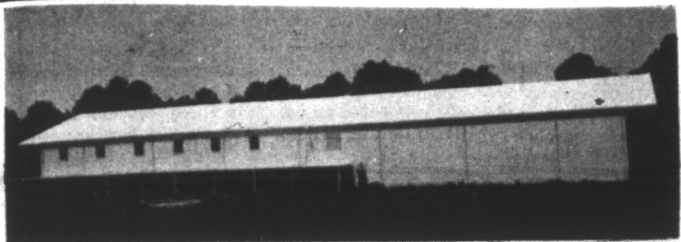
If you would like more information about this special weekend or if you know someone who would, contact the Director of Admissions, Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, MS 38610 (601-485-5711).

BMC

BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE



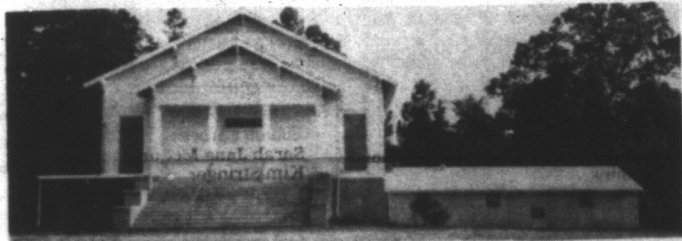
Just For The Record



Dr. Frank Gunn was the principal speaker on October 3, for the dedication of a new activities building at Ingalls Avenue, Pascagoula. Construction was begun in June of 1975. The men of the church have done most of the labor to complete the unit which is 70' by 200'. Included in the structure is a full-sized gym, a large game room, snack area, fellowship room, large kitchen and two large Sunday School Departments for Adults. It provides for a full range of recreation including basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, pool, ping pong and skating. These activities will begin immediately under the leadership of Richard Collum, activities director. Frnak Odum was Building Committee Chairman and coordinator of the volunteer workers. Dr. Allen O. Webb is pastor.



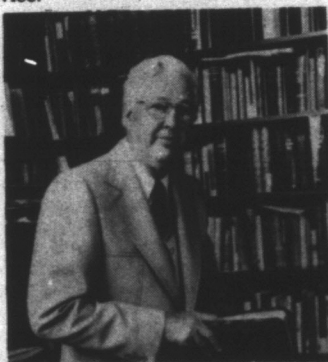
Ground breaking for a family life building was conducted October 10 at First Church, Newton. Shown in the picture is Dr. H. L. May, director of the "Together We Build" Campaign, with the shovel. Left to right: Preston Beatty, Building Committee member; Pastor Hardy R. Denham; Jonathan Landrum, son of Associate Pastor James Landrum, who represented the little ones of the church; Mason Walton, senior member present, representing the senior citizens. Flair Construction Company of Gulfport will build the \$200,000 Family Life Center. Construction is expected to be completed in the Spring of 1977. The building will contain a regulation sized gymnasium, a new church dining room and kitchen, a larger church library, a game room, a youth activities room, an activities office, showers and dressing rooms, as well as storage areas. The Building Planning Committee is composed of Robert Cochran, Chairman, Dr. H. L. May, Frank May, W. A. McClendon, Maury Gunter, and Preston Beatty.



A new activities building stands today by New Zion Church, Route 3, Crystal Springs. In the summer of 1975 a building committee (Robert Dear, Terrell Thornton, Hiram Fleming, Johnny Lyon, Monroe Blakeney and Thomas Singletary) set the wheels in motion. Many Saturdays were filled with work by our members while the ladies lovingly prepared food for them. The building was completed March 1, 1976, at a cost of \$4,576.25 with total indebtedness paid on August 31, 1976. An air conditioner, central heating unit, 3 pool tables, 2 ping pong tables, coke machine, benches, clock, several small tables and about twenty-five games were donated to the building. A recent cash donation was used to purchase a new black and white portable T.V. Rev. C. O. Lindsey, pastor of New Zion Church for over 12 years, led the dedication services Sunday, September 26.

Byram Church will have homecoming in connection with High Sunday School Attendance goal of 500 for October 31st. In addition to a special morning worship program, including local and visiting talent, the Clarke College 60-voice choir will present a musical program following the steak dinner, which will be held in the church gym. There will be preparation for more than 500 for the steak dinner. The pastor, Rev. Henry J. Bennett, in expressing appreciation for the 32 years of his pastorate with the church, is furnishing the home-grown steak for the dinner. "Unity and cooperation have characterized the church during these years. The church takes pride in having experienced only 60 negative votes in 32 years," states one member.

Corinth Church, Magee, honored their pastor, Rev. Billy Guest and family, Mrs. Della Guest, Bill and Anthony, with a special day Oct. 3, their third anniversary at the church. Chairman of Deacons, Junior Hankins was moderator of the service which included special music and various speakers from the church membership. The message was presented by Rev. Roger Walker, student of Mississippi College, who was recently ordained to the ministry at Corinth. Rev. Guest was presented a Pastor Appreciation Certificate. Also the church gave to the Guest family a stereo console system. A covered dish dinner was held following the morning service.



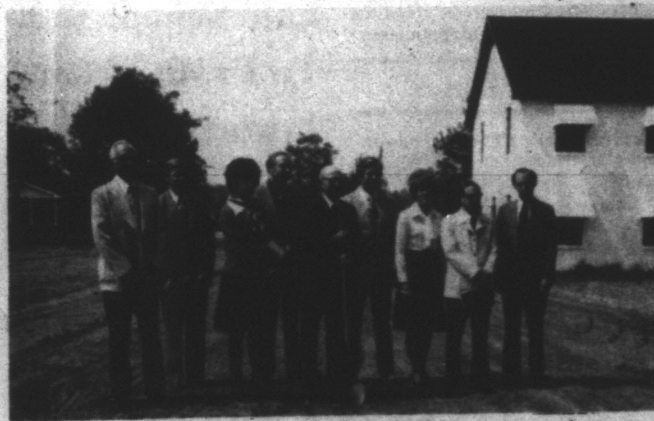
First Church, Pascagoula celebrated Clark McMurray Day in recognition of the pastor's fifteenth anniversary with the church. In the morning services a love offering was presented and a portrait of the family was given as a token of appreciation of a progressive and fruitful ministry. In the afternoon the family was honored with an open house at the parsonage. Rev. McMurray and his wife, the former Elsie Jane Rigby of Lancaster, Ky., have four children: David, John, Janet, and Susan. During Rev. McMurray's ministry at Pascagoula, a new sanctuary has been completed at a cost of about \$700,000. It will be paid for in November of this year. There have been 2,607 additions in the last 15 years.



Shuqualak Church, Shuqualak recently broke ground for a new educational building which will be completed this fall. The building, being constructed by Crowson Construction Company of Louisville, will provide needed educational space and a new fellowship hall. Leading the congregation in the ground breaking services are: (left to right) Pastor Roy D. Hawkins; deacons: Bill Thomas, Jerry Skipper, John Prince, Frank Prince, Marcus Anderson, and deacon chairman, Gus Evans.



Eastview Church, Meridian, recently observed homecoming services, using the Bicentennial theme, a note burning ceremony symbolized retirement of the church debt, which was paid several years early. Left to right are the deacons: Alton Parten, Bill McDonald, and Bill Bunyard; Marcus Smith, pastor; and deacons Cliff Partridge, R. C. McCary, Ira Moore, and Lionel Durbin.



Hickory Church at Hickory, broke ground for a new sanctuary on Sunday, September 19. Members of the Building Committee are, left to right: Ester Edwards, Pastor David Sellers, Mrs. Troy Brand, Jr., Judson Meaders, Troy Brand, Sr., Roy White, Mrs. Roy White, A. P. Scoggins, and Bruce Bufkin. Troy Brand, Sr. chairman of the committee, broke the ground. Others on program were Troy Brand, Jr., A. P. Scoggins, and Rev. Sellers.

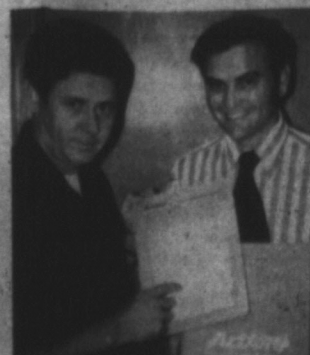


At October 10 homecoming at Mt. Vernon Church, Minter City, the Rev. James Hollingsworth was guest speaker at the morning service. Special music was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Rex Hollingsworth of Fulton and the Hudson Singers from Memphis. To mark the Bicentennial, the congregation sang "America." Young people who presented the American flag, the Christian flag, and the Bible were Yvonne McDaniel, Lynn Chandler, and Dianne Clark. Gifts were presented to former pastors present, including the morning speaker, Hollingsworth; Rev. Joe Hill, Rev. John Gore, and Rev. Franklin Eubanks who was assistant pastor during the time of Pastor L. E. Moon's illness last spring. Rev. John Gore received a gift as oldest man present; Mrs. Elba Britt as oldest woman; and Shannon Leah Brown, three weeks, as youngest child. Corsages were given to Mrs. Jessie Weed, Mrs. Katie Lou Lloyd, Mrs. Elba Britt, Mrs. Vena Mae Britt, Mrs. Elaine Goss, and Mrs. Effie Boyles in appreciation for their service to the church and community. Dinner was served at the church.

Action

First, Nettleton

Enrollment before ACTION campaign — 251
Average attendance — 160
Welcome Sunday — 200
One year ago — 163
Sunday before Welcome Sunday — 148
17 new Sunday School members
Enrolled 87 during ACTION Week
Present enrollment — 338
Pastor: Rev. William P. Smith, III
Sunday School director: Bobby Smith



SMITH AND SMITH — Bobby Smith, left, is Sunday School Director and Rev. William P. Smith, III, right, is pastor at First Church, Nettleton.

Fellowship Church, Jones County, honored their pastor, the Rev. Dickey McAllister, his wife, and son Reggie, on the pastor's third anniversary. The church gave the McAllisters a love gift of money and a surprise reception, "an hour of fellowship and refreshment."



Pinecrest Church, Rankin County, gave a reception September 19 for Rev. and Mrs. Tom Jackson, following his resignation as pastor of the church. The members also gave the Jacksons a money tree.

PROGRAMMER

The Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., needs a person with 2-3 years of RPG experience in business applications to work in its Richmond office. Its world-wide operations offer challenging and varied applications. If you are interested and can relocate to Richmond, Va., contact:

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conference. Two Chaplains
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in August, 28 rededications, 41
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NOVEMBER, 1976

Sunday School	Teach Stewardship lesson—Many churches have their stewardship emphasis during November. As a part of the program, the Sunday School will teach Stewardship lessons during the month.
Church Training	<p>ATTEND MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATIONAL "M" NIGHT. Encourage all Church Training leaders and members to attend Associational "M" Night in November. The purpose of the meeting: To present an overview of Church Training for 1976-77.</p> <p>LEADERSHIP TRAINING AT RIDGECREST. Churches should promote in November attendance of Church Training leaders at Southern Baptist Conference Centers in 1977 because reservations must be mailed early in January and workers must make decisions about attending and must in some instances make plans for vacations.</p> <p>CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL AND YOUTH BIBLE DRILL. Order leaflets for these Bible skill activities from the Mississippi Church Training Department. Secure the leadership and plan for intensive promotion beginning in January. Consult Mississippi Diary for Bible Drill clinics, Dec. 13-14.</p> <p>GUIDING BOOK STUDY. During November plan and conduct a study course using the guiding books for each age division. These are required books for adult, youth, children's leaders, and preschool workers toward the Church Training Leadership Diploma. They are also required for Sunday School workers.</p>
Church Music	<p>ThankSing and Worship Service Choir of Senior Adults. A congregational "sermon in song" for Thanksgiving.</p> <p>A thrust involving senior adults in music activity or rehearsal culminating in a Senior Adult Choir for a worship service.</p> <p>HYMN OF THE MONTH: "Sing to the Lord of Harvest", page 232, New Hymnal</p>
Brotherhood	<p>Nov. 8-12 Royal Ambassador Emphasis Week. (Needed material available from October-December issue of the "Brotherhood Builder." Additional copies from the Brotherhood Department.)</p> <p>Nov. 12-13 Overnight Missions Retreat. (Needed program suggestions available from Brotherhood Department.)</p> <p>Nov. 28-Dec. 5 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions (Needed material-graded series secured from Baptist Book Store.)</p>
Woman's Missionary Union	<p>Nov. 28-Dec. 5 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.</p> <p>(Program materials for week will be found in December WMU age-level magazines while plans for churchwide participation will be in October-December issue of DIMENSION. Free materials such as posters, offering envelopes, pictures, etc., for church use will be mailed to WMU Director in mid-October. Additional copies may be ordered from WMU Office, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.)</p>
Evangelism	<p>Locate and cultivate non-Christians.</p> <p>Conduct Lay Evangelism Schools. (For information write Evangelism Department, Jackson, Ms.)</p>
Stewardship	<p>Continue the annual budget development and subscription emphasis.</p> <p>Distribute stewardship tracts.</p> <p>Place articles and testimonies on stewardship development in church publications.</p> <p>Use stewardship filmstrips in department assemblies and worship services.</p>
Church Administration	November 1 Reminder: order literature for January, February and March



Harmony CT Wins Recognition

Harmony (Winston) has received Distinguished recognition in the use of the Church Training Achievement Guide for the sixth successive year. Advanced recognition was given for two years, making a total of eight years of outstanding work as measured by the guide. Pictured are: Standing left to right, Jerry Lovorn, youth leader; Gale Gregory, Children's leader; J. D. Gregory, Church Training director. Seated left to right: Rev. Tommy Jones, pastor, Mrs. Delle Lovorn, youth leader; and Mrs. Lavada Lovorn, secretary. Harmony is one of twelve churches in Mississippi to earn Distinguished recognition during the 1975-1976 church year.

Miss Bertha Smith To Lead Christian Life Conference

Miss Bertha Smith will lead in a Christian Life Conference at Colonial Heights, Jackson, October 31 - November 5.

Miss Bertha, as she is fondly known by thousands of Christians throughout the world, served as a missionary on the mainland of China for 31 years, and ten years on the island of Formosa. Since her retirement 13 years ago she has traveled extensively over the United States and in foreign countries leading Christian life conferences, prayer retreats for pastors, missionaries, and association and statewide retreats for Woman's Missionary Union.

Spry, vivacious and alert at the age of 85, she is a woman with a deep commitment to God.

Miss Smith will speak at the 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. services on Sunday, October 31 and Monday through Friday, November 1-5, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Rev. Len Turner, pastor of Colonial Heights Church, extends an invitation to all in the community to participate.

Revival Dates

Northwest Hills Church, Jackson: October 31 - November 5; services at 7:30 nightly; Rev. C. H. Locklin, pastor, Westview, Jackson, evangelist; James and Tammy Brown, music team; Rev. Robert McDonald, pastor; homecoming day on October 31, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with dinner on the grounds.

Center Terrace, Canton: October 31 - November 5; Rev. John Watts, pastor of Fairview Hills Church, Milton, Fla., evangelist; Myrna Loy Hedgepeth, guest musician, Sunday - Wednesday; Jimmy McEachern, guest musician, Thursday; Friday, youth night.

Names In The News

Dr. Charles W. Scott, professor of education and director of Counseling and Career Development Center at Mississippi College, was invited by the U. S. Office of Education to attend a special workshop in Silver Springs, Md., recently. Mississippi College was one of 12 private colleges in the nation considered to have an active career education program invited to the workshop.

Union Church, Seminary, recently honored Mrs. Edgar Trigg for her twenty-five years service as the church treasurer. Mrs. Trigg took office the first Sunday of October, 1951 and has served continuously since that date. For her faithfulness the church presented Mrs. Trigg with a silver tray and silver necklace, both engraved. Mrs. Trigg has served under ten pastors including the present one, Rev. Julian Thompson.



Good Hope Church, Leake County, has recognized three girls for five years of perfect attendance in Sunday School. They are, left to right, Sandra Nutt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Guy B. Nutt; Hugh McDonald, Sunday school director; Kaye and Jan Johnson, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Johnson.

Sumrall Calls Ed Hamilton

Rev. Ed Hamilton has accepted the pastorate of First Church, Sumrall. He and his wife, Dorothy, and daughter, Stephanie, have moved to Sumrall from New Hope Church in Franklin Association.

The Hamiltons are natives of Tishomingo, and former members of the Tishomingo Church, Rev. Eugene Tennon, pastor. Rev. Hamilton served churches in Tishomingo Association while teaching and coaching in the public school system of that county for six years.

He and Mrs. Hamilton are graduates of University of North Alabama at Florence, Ala. He is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary and currently a candidate for the Doctor of Ministry degree. Mrs. Hamilton also studied at the seminary.

There new address is First Baptist Church, Sumrall, Box 368, Sumrall, MS 39482.

Law School To Profit From Jaworski Book

WACO, Tex. (BP) — Baylor University's School of Law here will be the major beneficiary from the sales of the book, "The Right and the Power," by Leon Jaworski, former Special Watergate Prosecutor and a Baylor law graduate.

Royalties and other income from the book will go to the Leon Jaworski Foundation, charitable body of which law school of the Baptist university is the principal beneficiary.

The book concerns Jaworski's duties as special prosecutor and the events surrounding the investigation and prosecution of the Watergate defendants.

Devotional

Baptist Birds I've Known

By James W. Duke, Pastor, First, Shelby

In Luke 12:24, Jesus said, "Consider the birds..." In the life and ministry of our Lord every opportunity to preach was taken, even when walking through open fields with His disciples. In the scripture passage here, Jesus takes His text literally out of the air, "Consider the birds," and relates it to our Heavenly Father's care for us. Jesus was a lover of nature, living close to the soil, often alone in God's great outdoors, and well acquainted with its wildlife.

Not knowing much about the wildlife around me, I once determined to learn more about the bird life here in our state of Mississippi, so one by one, I gathered facts about the birds that live in and near my town, and in so doing, I learned that birds and people have a lot in common.

The first bird to catch my eye was the small house sparrow. My, there were so many and they just lived anywhere. Some lived in the eaves of my church, and others across the street in another church, while yet others were satisfied to live in a barn. These little creatures had no distinct color, not red, nor black, but just drab gray. They had no beautiful voice to sing with, and their eating habits were unpredictable, even as their dwelling places.

It took but small insight to see that this most common of all birds had a counterpart in the most common of all Baptists that I'd known, no distinct color robe to wear with pride, no certain voice to speak with, no feeding habits to set it apart, and a dwelling place in the houses of the world.

It's this group I find myself addressing most: urging, pleading, prodding to get them to "Put on the whole armor of God," to "Avoid all appearance of evil," to "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so," and to "Come out from among them and be different."

From that modest start at nature study, I learned of many other birds. I learned about woodpeckers, all dressed up in a Tux, as though going some place for sure, but content to sit on an old dead tree and knock, while looking for something under the bark. My night search showed me a hoot owl with eyes to see at night and a voice to tell all to any that will listen. I found in my neighbor's house a parakeet that looked so smart, could say little words, do little tricks, but I soon learned they were not his words, nor his tricks, and he could only follow the leader's directions. Another neighbor owned a canary, so sweet, so delicate, such a sweet singer; but if you ruffled its feathers, it wouldn't sing for a week. Then out in the fields around, I saw my men hunting bobwhite, which I learned run in congregations or coveys, and when they are fixed upon, they break up into smaller groups, one following this leader and another that leader.

Isn't that just like some people you know? Is it any wonder our Lord commanded us to consider the birds? Let us learn from them and become good birds like the rebird that lights on your window sill, that is said to be a token of good will and promises that "something good is going to happen to you."

Let us put on the fullness of Christ till others can see Christ in us, and we can say with our Brother Paul, "I live, yet not I but Christ liveth within me."



Church Debt Goes Up In Flames

At the Sept. 19 homecoming day for Mineral Wells Church, DeSoto County, the members and former members not only enjoyed fellowship and a bountiful meal, but had a pleasant surprise in the afternoon service! In 1966 the church had bought their site from Mr. and Mrs. B. F. McDaniel and had been making a monthly note to these people from that time. Mr. McDaniel passed away several years ago and Mrs. McDaniel who is now 90 years old, signed a release for the balance the church owes her, an amount of about \$4100. In a special appreciation service to Mr. and Mrs. McDaniel, the note was burned by the pastor and deacons. Mrs. McDaniel had wanted to make this gift during these homecoming services. This now makes this church debt free. L to R: Pastor Warren Banks; deacons, L. W. Hamilton, W. L. Cristie, Richard M. Hayeslip, B. F. Coke, Sr., and Deacon Chairman, Billy Cunningham. Mrs. McDaniel is seated.

his obligation to love.

With which one of the characters of the story do you identify?

1. There was the priest. The priest hastened past the man. No doubt he was remembering that he who touched a dead man was unclean for seven days. If he touched the man he feared to be dead, he would lose his turn of duty in the temple. He was a man who set the claims of ceremony above those of charity. The temple of stone meant more to him than the temple of the body where there was pain.

2. There was the Levite. He seemed to have gone near, but passed on. He might have suspected a trap, and so he used the motto, "Safety First." He would take no risk to help anyone else.

3. There was the Samaritan. Jesus used a hero who was the most unlikely person to show love you could have imagined, if you were a Jew. His name sometimes is used to describe a heretic and a breaker of the ceremonial law. Yet, there are two important things to remember. (a) His credit was good. The innkeeper trusted him. He may have been theologically unsound, but he was an honest man. (b) He alone was prepared to help. A heretic he may have been, but the charity of God was in his heart. It is no new experience to find the orthodox more interested in dogmas than in help, and to find the man that the orthodox de-

The story of the good Samaritan was given to help a lawyer who was trying to embarrass Jesus. The lawyer was an expert in the Jewish law. He asked Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. In trying to expose Jesus, he exposed his own inadequate understanding of the intention of the law. Jesus turned the question on the lawyer by asking him what he found in the law. The lawyer quoted Deuteronomy 6:5, the commandment to love God and neighbor with one's whole self. Jesus commended him for answering correctly.

But the lawyer felt challenged by the answer and wanted to justify himself so he asked, "And who is my neighbor?" However he wanted to justify himself, his question condemned him. "Who is my neighbor?" is a wrong question because it is a selfish question. The right question would have been, "Am I a neighbor?" The lawyer was looking for limitations for

hurt those I love.

V. I will not close my eyes or pass by on the other side wherever there is need of my service, my friendship, or my presence.

VI. I will lift someone's spirits by giving the most needed gift of all—a word of hope and encouragement.

VII. I will remember to be grateful to those who have been good Samaritans to me, and who will keep me from falling into the ditches of discouragement, depression, and defeat.

VIII. I will be a good Samaritan for the inner joy of serving, because helping others is what the Golden Rule is all about.

IX. I will recognize that my neighbor is anyone and that my brother is everyone.

X. I will feel so much joy, experience so much growth, and receive such a blessing as a good Samaritan today, that I will be a good Samaritan again tomorrow.

Loving Means Helping

By Bill Duncan
Luke 10:25-37

If a person were to have eternal life, what kind of life would it be? William Arthur Ward has written a statement that explains that kind of life under the title, "I will be a Good Samaritan."

I. I will be sensitive to the needs of my fellow man and actively look for ways to befriend him.

II. I will become aware of man's suffering, get involved in his struggle, and comfort him in his sorrow.

III. I will withhold judgment of my brother and attempt to understand his thinking, his attitudes, and his behavior.

IV. I will forgive those who have injured me; I will forgive even those who



Secure In God's Love

By Wm. J. Falls
Romans 8:15-39

Since September 5 we have been studying passage from Galatians and Romans under the general theme of



"The Message of Reconciliation." That was one of the words Paul used to describe the new relationship between God and a person when that believer accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Becoming

reconciled meant depending wholly on God's grace for the forgiveness of sin and beginning a new life in faith. Too many people think the salvation experience ends right there — until eternal life begins after death. But Paul said there was much more. Being reconciled meant having a new confidence to face the threats of life, really trusting in God's love for self and others.

The Lesson Explained
God Words With The Called Ones
(vv. 28-39)

Because God is in control of "things," this first verse is better translated: "in all things God works for good" (TEV). But we often give more attention to the first part of this verse than to the second. For whom is God working things together for good? Those who love God, of course. That is the other side of the relationship. God loved persons first, but when persons respond with love for him, things begin to happen.

God took the initiative in calling them "according to his purpose." Those who respond are the "called ones." Their experiences, whether good or bad, can be used by God for his purpose. He intends for them to become like his Son so he can be "the Eldest in a vast family of brothers" (Weymouth). Toward that end, knowing who would respond, God called persons and justified them or "put them right with himself." Paul said that God also glorified them, as though it had already happened. He knew it

was coming. All this was God's purpose for those who trust him.

He Forgave Them Through Christ
(vv. 31-34)

In the light of all that God has done for believers, what can they say in response? And Paul's answer is another question: "If God be for us, who can be against us?" He was overwhelmed with the realization of God's love and concern, and with God's superiority to any other protection a person might need. To illustrate God's concern, Paul pointed out that God had given his Son in life and in death for the sake of us all. That God proves he is willing to give others.

Furthermore, believers (the called ones) know that accusations against them as to sin will not stand up because God has already acquitted them. Certainly Christ Jesus won't bring a charge; after all, he died and was raised to set us right before God, and he keeps on interceding in our behalf. So, God is on our side against the evil one; through Christ he has forgiven us. He Protects Them By His Love
(vv. 35-39)

Really, verse 35 says "the love of

Christ," but it means "the love of God in Christ." Paul was convinced that nothing could come between us and that love, and he listed some physical disasters, most of which Paul had already met. He could speak from experience. None of those fearsome enemies could interfere with the loving relationship of the believer and his Lord. Christians in Rome would someday need that reassurance. In the love of Christ they would become "super-conquerors."

Even though they might escape persecution, believers might be threatened even more by invisible and supernatural forces. We cannot be sure why Paul felt these factors were potential enemies. Angels, principalities, and powers were probably thought of as invisible forces that could bring evil on man. "Height" and "depth" may have referred to astrological conditions. Whatever they were, Paul was saying that none of the things feared by people of his day could separate them from the love of Christ. The called ones — who loved God — were absolutely secure in his love.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For October 31

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New Orleans Sets Pace In Enrollment

New Orleans—Based on final fall enrollment figures, New Orleans Seminary has recorded the largest increase in enrollment among the six Southern Baptist seminaries. These figures were presented at a meeting of the Seminary administrators in Nashville.

New Orleans Seminary, with a first term enrollment of 906 compared to 720 for the same period last year, is enjoying a 26 percent increase in total enrollment.

Arbor Grove Calls Pastor

Arbor Grove Church, Houston, has called as pastor Rev. Eugene Stewart. Gene Stewart, a native of Columbia, is the son of Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Stewart of Columbia.



He is a graduate of Pearl River Junior College and William Carey College.

He received his theological training from New Orleans Seminary, where he received a Master of Theology degree.

In his seventh year as pastor, he has served Clear Creek, Marion County, Mt. Horeb Church, Covington County.

He is married to the former Charlotte Graham of Columbia. The Stewarts are the parents of a daughter, Hollie, born May 5, 1973. They are guardians for John Graham, brother of Charlotte.

Off The Record

Preachers fall into four categories. Some have no notes, and the people have no idea how long they will preach. Some put down on the pulpit each page of the sermon as it is read enabling the audience to keep track of how much more is to come. Some cheat by putting each sheet of notes under the others in their hand. And worst of all, some put down each sheet as it is read and then horrify the congregation by picking up the whole batch and reading off the other side.

Then there was the man giving instructions to the stonemason regarding the tombstone for his late wife's grave.

"I want 'Rest in Peace' on both sides. Then, if there's enough room: 'We shall meet in heaven.'"

The stone was set in place the husband went along to inspect it. It stated: Rest in peace on both sides and if there is enough room we shall meet in heaven.

Size isn't everything. The whale is endangered but the ant is doing fine.

spies to be the man who loves his fellow man. In the end we will be judged not by the creed we hold, but by the life we live.

4. There was the wounded traveler. He had been robbed and beaten by persons who took advantage of him. Some may think that the person was reckless to travel alone, but you cannot always shelter yourself completely. Life carries with it the possibility of being hurt. The fact that you may be wounded is a sign that you are alive.

We would like to place ourselves alongside the good Samaritan. That role is most attractive, and it clearly is the role that Jesus would have us to assume. But it may be that before we can become the good Samaritan, we must first become identified with the victim.

Must we not first see ourselves naked, broken, and helpless, forced to accept mercy from an unexpected and undesired source? Only as we thus accept mercy can we begin to understand what mercy is. One can become the compassionate neighbor only as he first learns to receive mercy.

Why do people pass others in need? Some want to leave ministry to institutions. Some fear to help others because of the risk and the liability. Some do not have time or money. My question should be, "Am I the kind of person who helps others?"